

Unitarian Universalist Society of Iowa City
Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting – February 11, 2016
MINUTES

Minutes from all regular Board meetings are reviewed by the Board members and made available to members and friends on the website and in the UUSIC Board of Trustees notebook in the Administration Office. Minutes may also be requested via mail or email from the UUSIC administrator.

Board Members present: Jim Olson (President), Kelly O'Berry (Vice-President), Jeanette Carter (Secretary), Adam Ingersoll (Treasurer), Vicki Siefers (Past-President), Marianne Mason (Trustee), Steve Vincent (Trustee), Kirk Witzberger (Trustee)

Board Members absent: Steve Locher (Trustee)

Ex Officio present: Rev. Steven Protzman (Minister), Jessica Zimmer-Saltzman (DLRE)

Ex Officio absent: None

Guests: Karen Mason, Peter Brokaw, Jerry Nordquist

Call to Order: Jim Olson called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. at Adam Ingersoll's office. Opening words were read by Jessica Zimmer-Saltzman.

Announcements: The Board received a congratulatory note from Charity Rowley. Mary MacMurray called the Board's attention to an infraction about wine served at the Festival of the First Bread. We will put a notice in the newsletter about the alcohol policy, which includes no collection or "donation" of money for wine at events.

The Board received a request for payment of the rental fee from Sanctuary for the Festival of the First Bread.

Beginning next month, the Board will start getting executive committee news from Rev. Steven.

A payment equal to a month's salary will be given to Trudy Gullette, who will be taking maternity leave.

The Board will ask the Leadership Development Committee to try to identify a new treasurer a year in advance.

Jessica recruited people to take part in a play on February 14, celebrating the end of the 30 Days of Love. She also reminded us that peanut butter and jelly will be collected on that day.

Consent Agenda

Motion: Moved by Witzberger and seconded to accept the consent agenda as presented. **Motion carried.**

Action and Discussion Items:

Treasurer Ingersoll explained the possible uses of the Annual Spending Allowance from the Endowment, which has been recommended by Endowment as 4%, or \$37,497 this year; Because of our successful stewardship campaign and Capital Campaign, Ingersoll recommends we leave it in the Endowment fund to keep retained earnings.

Motion: Moved by Ingersoll and seconded: The Board, with gratitude and appreciation, instructs the Endowment Committee that we will not withdraw any ASA funds in 2016 at this time and would rather see those funds remain invested to the Society's benefit:

Motion carried.

Report: Pete Brokaw from the Finance Council reported on the Social Justice Action Fund, which was given \$5,000 in 2013 by the Endowment Committee as seed money. SJAC also received funds from the Treats and Talents auction. This was repeated in

2014. In 2015 funds were not transferred to SJAF, although Treats and Talents receipts were. Endowment feels it is not in their purview to distribute funds to a specific Society committee. It was suggested that future funds for SJAF should be included in the regular budget. Brokaw stated the Finance Council will bring back a recommendation about this matter.

Motion: Approve Ken Atkinson as a member of the Endowment Committee until 2018 to fill out the vacancy caused by the resignation of Tom Rocklin. Siefers, Vincent motion passed.

Motion: Approve dates for the March 20 congregational meeting to approve the mortgage on the new building and for the May 22 Annual Congregational Meeting. Vincent, Mason. motion passed.

Steve Vincent, representing the Membership Task Force, presented a chart of how the membership group could work. He noted that almost all growth in the UUA comes from churches that have professional congregational life coordinators. The Board thanked Steve for his work.

Kirk Witzberger offered a plan for a media/publicity lead person. Bailey Kelley is working on finding someone who could do this.

Vicki Siefers reported on her work with volunteer recruitment. She has updated committee lists and is working to find out what needs for volunteers committees have. She has had good luck with several groups.

Kelly O'Berry, working on Leadership Development, stated we are not doing a good job developing leaders. If a separate nominating committee was formed, the LDC could spend more time on the aspect of developing leaders. Kelly and Kirk will speak with LDC and clarify this.

Land Ministry: In anticipation of developing plans for promoting a land ministry for our new property, a consultant, Tim Kercheville, was hired to prepare a plan, for which he will be paid \$500. There is no further commitment beyond this plan. Two co-chairs will be appointed to lead the ministry in implementing a plan. Witzberger noted that all parties involved need to be included to plan, design and implement the land ministry's work. Kirk, Vicki, Adam and Steve Vincent will work on how to go forward with the plan.

Strategic Plan: Siefers is working on the three-year plan for 2016-2019, suggesting it be updated by having forums which will choose the top ideas for what we want to accomplish in the next three years. A vision for Religious Education will be part of the strategic plan.

Motion: Witzberger moved we begin the Strategic Plan process this spring, including religious education in a deep way, with the focus primarily on a one-year plan with a vision for 5 or more years out. The motion died for lack of a second.

Motion: Rev. Steven moved the Board meet in August and set goals for the coming year. The motion died for lack of a second.

Groundbreaking and Room Names: Witzberger led a discussion of which date would be best to have a public groundbreaking, possibly on Earth Day to emphasize our hope for the greenest building in Iowa.

Motion: We will hold the official public groundbreaking on April 22, Earth Day. Witzberger, Mason. motion passed.

Ingersoll and Witzberger presented an updated construction budget which shows it is on track.

Motion: Approve the resolution to secure the mortgage for the new facility. Witzberger, Siefers. motion passed.

Guest comments: Karen Mason from CCLAM thanked us for our work.

Process Observer: Siefers reported that although we had extra topics included, we stayed pretty well on time.

Closing words were read by Kelly O'Berry.

Motion: Motion to adjourn. Ingersoll, Witzberger. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Recorded on February 11, 2016. Jeanette Carter, Secretary