

## Unitarian Universalist Society Board of Trustees MEETING HIGHLIGHTS – August 9, 2018

*Board meeting minutes are made available on the website or can be requested from the UUS administrator.*

**Present:** Jane DeWitt (President), Jim Laughlin (Past-President), Amy Fretz (Vice-President), Chris Rode (Treasurer), Peg Voelker (Secretary), Sara Feldmann (Trustee), Michael Honey-Arcement (Trustee), Colleen Higgins (Trustee), Rev. Diane Dowgiert (Ex officio), Peggy Garrigues (DCL), and Jessica Zimmer-Saltzman (DLRE)

**Absent:** Paul Pomrehn (Trustee)

**Guests:** Sharon Booker (Committee on Congregational Life and Ministry), Tom McMurray (Interim Transition Team), Mark Yuskis (Secular Humanist)

Board President DeWitt called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. Rev. Diane Dowgiert provided opening words followed by the chalice lighting. Everyone warmly welcomed Rev. Diane Dowgiert to her first UUS Board meeting. DeWitt invited guests and the Board Trustees not at last week's Executive Committee meeting to introduce themselves.

**Consent Agenda:** Consent agenda and other items are uploaded to Dropbox for Board review prior to the meeting.

*Consent Agenda items: Board Agenda; August Executive Committee Minutes; July Board Meeting Highlights and Minutes; Monthly Staff Reports (DLRE, DCL, and Administrator); Treasurer's Report & Financial Statements; Board Contact Information 2018-2019; Thank-you letter from Midwest Leadership School youth attendee. Other items: Final, Interim Ministry Transition Team Charge (Voelker); Social Justice Action Fund Policy, 03182018 (Feldmann).*

DeWitt reviewed several items from the Executive Committee meeting minutes. First, she noted that the Staff Relations Committee (SRC) submitted two process documents for Board review and approval. The Executive Committee decided to table their review until discussions take place with Rev. Diane about Policies versus Procedures and Board approval requirements. Sharon Booker and David Tokuhisa, co-chairs of the Committee on Congregational Life and Ministry (CCLAM), also requested that the Board review and approve revisions to their mission statement. This review was also tabled until after Rev. Diane meets with CCLAM. The last item DeWitt reviewed was the work underway to finalize the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) between UU Solar, LLC (our solar panel investors), and UUS. The PPA defines the investor reimbursement terms for the energy generated by the solar arrays that either offsets our consumption or is purchased by the electric company. Linn County REC has tiered pricing based on consumption and demand, thus the calculations are complex. Hopefully the PPA will be available for Board approval by the September Board meeting. *The Board received the Consent Agenda and approved the minutes.*

**Interim Transition Team:** Members of the Interim Transition Team (ITT) are: Tom McMurray (co-chair), Diane Martin (co-chair), Pete Brokaw, Jeanette Carter, Gary Lawrenson, John Lanaghan, and Virginia Melroy. Following review and minor changes, the ITT Charge was finalized. McMurray reported that their work is going well and that the team has met several times. They are prioritizing the groups and individuals that need to meet with Rev. Diane during the next weeks and making those arrangements. Future plans include reaching out to all past UUS Presidents. They will provide updates and information in the newsletter and to the Board as needed. DeWitt thanked the team for their work. Rev. Diane commented that they are a great group of people.

**Social Justice Action Fund Policy (SJAF):** Feldmann provided the proposed SJAF Policy Revision, noting that Pete Brokaw contributed significantly to the update. Elements discussed by the Board included the committee's composition and funding allocation sources, amounts, and carry-over across budget years. Additional comments should be sent to Feldmann before the Finance Council meets on August 29. Final changes will then be made, and the *policy presented for 2<sup>nd</sup> read in September.*

**Choir Section Leader Proposal:** Our Music Director, Gloria Corbin, submitted a request for approval to hire a section leader/soloist and to receive a gift of funds to support this position during the remainder of 2018 and 2019. This section leader would provide both leadership and balance for the tenor section, which has not grown like the other sections. The section leader would attend rehearsals, sing three Sundays each month with the choir, and occasionally perform solos. *The Board approved the request to accept the monetary gift and to fill the position.*

**Gift of a Sculpture:** DeWitt shared that Vickie Siefers contacted her about a sculpture for the community garden. Julia Lohrman Audlehelm and Larry Audlehelm would like to gift the sculpture, created by Julia's mother, to UUS. A plaque will be attached with the following, "FLIGHT 1987 by Rosemary C. Lohrman." *The Board accepted the gift.*

**Board Start-Up Workshop:** Rev. Diane recommends that the UUS Board take advantage of the MidAmerica Region's offer to provide an Interim Ministry Start-Up Workshop. This full-day workshop will help set the stage for a productive ministerial transition period by clarifying roles and responsibilities and establishing clear goals and the tasks needed to accomplish those goals. Rev. Diane emphasized that this Board work needs to take place before a congregational visioning workshop. DeWitt is communicating with Regional staff to schedule this as soon as possible.

Feldmann reported as process observer. Honey-Arcement provided closing words. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. The next Board meeting is Thursday, September 13, 2018, starting at 6:30 p.m. in the UUS Conference Room.

Submitted by Peg Voelker, Secretary