

Minutes
Board of Trustees Meeting
Emerson Unitarian Universalist Church
August 16, 2016

Members Present: Mike Condit (MC), Linda Condit (LC), Kenneth Jones (KJ), Nancy Lipp (NL), Barbara Crotty (BC), Ruth Alkons-Wolinsky (RA-W), Mark Edmiston-Lange (ME-L), Becky Edmiston-Lange (BE-L), Beth Hammer (BH), Craig Miller (CM), Katy Carpman (KC), and Karen Van Horn (KVH).

Minutes by KJ

Members Not Present: Wade Greiner (WG), Richard Loftin (RL), and Mark Andersen (MA)

Chalice lighting and reading (Becky) – The Board gave a warm welcome back to the ministers who have returned from their sabbatical.

President's Report – Mike highlighted the happenings at the church during the sabbatical. Mike highlighted the major question to be considered during the upcoming retreat (September 17th). The Stewardship effort has been very successful. The goal is to create a self-sustaining financial situation.

Approve June Board minutes – BC Motion to Approve, CM 2nd, and unanimous approval by the board.

Welcome New Members – there were no new members

Consent Reports:

- Ministers – ministers report a fabulous and energizing sabbatical and expressed their deep gratitude for all those involved in running the church in their absence.
- RE Director – KC delivered her report – with an overview of attendance, her nomination to the nominating committee of the LREDA with other details contained in her report.
- Business Administrator – discussed that the new Office Administrator for Communications, Alejandra Gonzalez, is settling in to the position quite well. KVH then reviewed the summer financials. KVH proposed that UUNO have their own designated fund for operating expenses that requires board approval. KJ moved to approve, BH 2nd, the board approved the motion unanimously.
- Treasurer – LC delivered her report with an overview of the progress made in bringing in pledges. The budget process is continuing in the Finance Committee to be submitted in September.

A discussion was held in regard to board members being notified of detailed action taken on the budget beyond what was actually voted on in the June meeting.

- Committee Liaisons
CM reported on the Groppe Scholarship. One scholarship fell through and another is up in the air due to the proposed recipient possibly changing to a school outside Houston. This and a third scholarship will be reported on next month.
- Adult RE will kick off the next month with a social action component for one of 4 weeks each month.
- MC reported on UUNO – concerns were raised over the growth of the program in terms of church finances, church personnel, building utilities, and facility space available for other church functions.

New Business

- Logistics of Fellowship and Stewardship Dinner October 15 – a pot luck dinner, final logistics to be determined and publicized.
- Homecoming Sunday – 9/11 – The expectation is the board will assist.
- Update Board welcoming list for Oct-Dec – the list was passed
- Tree issue – the neighboring condos have an issue with a tree impacting the fence. Emerson has received a demand letter from the association. This has been answered by Larry Huelbig and we are awaiting a response.
- BOT Retreat Saturday, September 17 – the focus on the retreat will be action oriented. MC asked for ideas on topics to be discussed. To be at the Condit's home from 9:00 am – 12:30 pm
- 360 With You at Every Turn offering – the board discussed the options for leadership development and 360 in particular. There was no real interest from the board. It was suggested that specific aspects of leadership development pertinent to Emerson be determined and then seek out resources on that area. It was suggested that the components of Leap of Faith be re-examined.
- UUNO Grant submission. The following motion was presented to the board: "The Board of Trustees encourages Emerson's ESL program leadership team to prepare and submit grant applications for funding on the 2017 Emerson ESL program in the name of Emerson Unitarian Universalist Church just as it did with the grant application for the 2016 Emerson ESL program. The Board of Trustees requires that the name and source of each grant that the leadership team wishes to apply for be submitted to the Board of Trustees for approval prior to the preparation of each grant application." A motion was made to approve by KJ, 2nd by RA-W. Approved by unanimous vote by the board.

Old Business

- Kilgore Lecture Oct 6 – Lisa Falkenberg is the speaker. The topic is criminal justice reform.

Closing reading (Becky)

Next BOT Meeting – September 19

Adjournment