

**Minutes
Board of Trustees Meeting
Emerson Unitarian Universalist Church
May 17, 2016**

Members Present: Barbara Crotty (BC), Craig Miller (CM), Mark Andersen (MA), Nancy Lipp (NL), Katy Carpman (KC), Beth Hammer (BH), Karen Van Horn (KVH), Ruth Alkons-Wolinsky (RA-W), Kenneth Jones (KJ), Wade Greiner (WG)

Members Not Present: Mike Condit, Linda Condit, and Richard Loftin,

Minutes by Kenneth Jones

Chalice lighting and reading (Katy)

President's Report – BC will chair the meeting in Mike Condit's absence

BC reported on Join Emerson Sundays and that they have been very successful

Approve March & April Board minutes – Minutes were distributed. KJ asked for members to review them and make any corrections/additions for final review and approval.

March Minutes were approved with suggested corrections on Motion of RA-W, 2nd by MA;

April Minutes approval with suggested corrections on Motion of MA and 2nd by BH

Welcome New Members:

Carol Jeanne Davis Trout, Michael Bloom, Robby Nunez, and David Nielson

. Consent Reports:

RE Director – KC presented her report to the BOT with these highlights...

Triumphs and projects

- Eighteen Emersonians attended RE Innovation Conversations on May 15th —now working on compiling notes and engaging working groups.
- Working with Adult Ed on plans for 2016-2017 – interest session on June 5!
- Working with Communications Committee on content for website migration
- Assembling Summer RE plans – A World of New Friends
- Talking with youth about summer plans – no beach trip this year!

Upcoming Dates:

June 5: First Summer Sunday School!

June 19: Katy will lead multi-gen service

June 20-26: Katy at General Assembly (and professional meetings)

June 27-July 5: Katy on vacation

July 14-25: Katy on vacation

Please note that Katy will be away for the June and July board meetings.

- Business Administrator – KVH presented the highlights of her report which included:
April Operating Account total Income and expense figures:
April 2016 Income \$65,679
April Expenses \$66,336
April Deficit \$ - 667
2016 YTD Surplus \$ 9,241
- Treasurer – There was no Treasurer's report
- Committee Liaisons – BH & KJ reported on upcoming events from the Coordinating Council for Social Action
- KJ announced a Refugees Welcome event planned for Saturday, June 18, from 6:00 to 9:00 in the Sanctuary and WWH
- Groppe Scholarships – CM reported that we had 5 applicants and 3 that will be notified of application approval.
- Adult RE – Power of Words report – MA reported that 3 people signed up for the class on Thursday nights and will finalize the particulars based on feedback from the participants.

New Business

- Stewardship Committee – NL reported that there have been no substantial changes from the last report. Letters will go out within the next 2 weeks.
- Loomio as a discussion and decision-making tool for BOT – KJ explained the pro's & cons...BOT agrees that they will try over the summer on a trial basis – KJ to resend the links
- Trespasser problem reported by neighbor – BC shared a report from a neighbor that has seen the same car entering the parking lot and using the dumpster. Will wait to see if anything develops.
- New website comments – the Communications Committee has been working on the new web page – KC previewed the look of the beta version of the site. She reviewed the features and some of the issues with the transition. BOT members are to go to the site and check for problems in navigation/operation and report any issues or concerns
- Delegates to GA 2015 – Katy Carpman and Dan Rigney are proposed as Emerson delegates, CM Moved, BH 2nd, unanimous in favor.

Old Business

- Results of Services Auction – RA-W – presented her report to the BOT – the Auction netted \$51,945.75 of this \$26, 635.25 goes to the General Fund and \$23, 300.00 to Fund a Need and \$2010.50 to the mini-fund-a-need
- Kilgore Lecture – KVH – reports that 3 dates 9/15, 9/29, & 10/6 were sent to the speaker and will wait to hear back.
- Church Security Update – CM – reported that he talked to 4 HISD officers, options are to contract with an individual officer or to contract with an agency. CM contacted 3 agencies – it was recommended that we use Physical Presence/Security/Deterrence, Off Duty Services Houston: if contracted for every Sunday there is a discount. A 4 hour minimum is standard. This comes to an annual amount of \$10, 847.20. Concerns were noted that there is insufficient funds to cover this expense.

KC mentioned that we could offer a security training for members to know what to do and how to respond in the event of a security situation.

BC to contact Pct 1 Constable, CM to contact an HISD Investigator for training options & security assessments.

Coordinating Council – There is concern about communications among committees and looking for ways to facilitate better communication and leadership development. A brief discussion was had over alternatives to face to face meetings: Google Hangouts, Zoom, GoToMeeting, & conference calls that might be used for this purpose.

Closing reading (Katy)

Next Meeting – June 21

Adjournment