

Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington

Approved Minutes of the July 17, 2008 Board of Directors Meeting

Governance -- Membership Journey -- Communication

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Attending: David Cox, Andrea Murray, G. K. Rowe, Amy Taylor, Shari Woodbury

Not attending: Chris Haynes, John Lawson

Call to order by G.K. Rowe, President, at 7:07 PM

Welcome to Andrea Murray, Vice President -- GK Rowe

Chalice Lighting and Reading by David Cox

Motion: Approval of the Board of Directors Meeting minutes

Approve minutes with clarification that funds raised for the International Outreach Task Force, though passing through church account, will ultimately go to the International Outreach Task Force and affiliated charities. (Also say Jennifer instead of wife.) And correct typo under transfer of gavel.

Moved by David Cox, second by Amy Taylor

Vote: approved unanimously

Minister Report -- Rev. Mary Ann Macklin

The Program Team will begin meeting in August.

The ministers recommend appointment of Jason Hill to Ministerial Support Committee in seat formerly filled by Joan Bennett. Andrea moved and Dave seconded. Unanimous.

Clarified board's intention of delegating to the management team in relation to the International Outreach Task Force special event; our purpose was to empower the management team to work with International Outreach Task Force for blues event, using their best judgment on issues raised by that ambitious proposal (including those specified regarding alcohol and sponsorships, as well as what timing is feasible for working through such issues).

Board recognized need to review our policy on alcohol in future. The requests for including alcohol at church events are growing, and policy does not address the concern of children (which has been a continual concern).

Motion: ministerial support committee membership

As recommended by the ministers, appointment of Jason Hill to Ministerial Support Committee in seat formerly filled by Joan Bennett.

Moved by Andrea Murray, second by Dave Cox.

Vote: approved unanimously

Nomination of Rev. Peter Morales for UUA President

See attached proposal by David Keppel.

Andrea expressed the reservation that although nomination is not technically endorsement, it may be construed as such by long-time members who personally support Laurel, and create undue tension in our congregation.

Amy highlighted discussion among recent GA delegates about next year's delegates seeking direction from the congregation prior to GA regarding those well-known voting items such as UUA president. Her perception was that delegates don't usually have marching orders but are trusted to use the info they receive at GA to determine what they feel would best serve the congregation and vote accordingly. Yes, that's been our way with issues voted upon at GA.

Candidates are approved by Denominational Committee and usually we just get enough to go, so there's no competitive process.

Andrea looked into nominating. Candidates have to have a certain number of nominations to run; probably both already have achieved it. When we nominated Laurel it was much earlier in the process and could help reach that threshold. We have rarely participated in nomination before and did so this time because we have enough deep, first-hand knowledge of Rev. Hallman to vouch for her suitability as a candidate.

Noted Chris' e-mail supporting engagement with both candidates, and John's email expressing interest in further info. All agreed discussion and open-mindedness within the congregation is desired, and each person may come to their own conclusions.

Decided not to vote on nomination of Rev. Morales, but instead to develop a board statement which would clarify why we nominated Laurel and communicate our encouragement for all UUs to learn about both candidates. Amy and Andrea volunteered to draft for board action next month.

Chalice Lighter Grant Updated information and discussion

Rev. Macklin explained we might need the board to throw together a 5-year plan to meet the application requirements, but have come up with a better solution, having Rev. Child write a statement supporting our relatively new Appreciative Inquiry process. Shari gave heads-up on issue of how to phase funds in for the membership integration position, in relation to other salaries. Proposal will come for board action in August. Shari shared some quotes from congregation, gathered through Appreciative Inquiry process, which underscored the need for investing in membership integration.

-- Rev. Macklin and Shari Woodbury

Bylaws Review and Discussion

GK highlighted changes relating to Management Team and Program Team. Amy is board representative to Program Team, which will be meeting the Monday prior to the board meeting. Rev. Macklin emphasized we will be "living in" to this new process and structure over several years.

Management Team will experiment with structure and operation of Program Team. If policies are needed, will come back to board.

Board Retreat Discussion

Ideas for use of retreat time: review goals set and what was accomplished last year; set goals for coming year for the board; invite someone to speak to us who has gone through the governance transition (Carol McCord went through it with Planned Parenthood; Dave will check on Bloomingfoods; Andrea will check with Centerstone). Will discuss goals and so on amongst ourselves from 10-12, panel of policy governance veterans come at noon for lunch, panel speak from 12:30-1:30. 5-10 minutes each, then Q&A. Digest and discuss after panel, end at 3.

One item to discuss: how visioning and priority-setting of board ("Ends" work of board) works with Appreciative Inquiry -- board liaison to AI? How do we work with "innovative ideas" once they come to us?

Review mission statement. Start down the road to shortening?

Could explore how to get structure for benchmarking organizational progress toward goals (ongoing services and new goals). Board is interested in dashboard-report format with select measures.

Other Business

Rev. Macklin reported plan by September to identify a cadre of good announcers that may or may not be board members but who like to do it and connect well with congregation. All agreed. Management Team will pursue. Board members will continue to sign up for greeting on Sunday mornings.

On behalf of GA delegates, Amy thanked board and congregation spiritually and financially for support.

Motion: to adjourn

Moved by David Cox, second by Andrea Murray

Vote: approved unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM