

UUCM Board meeting November 16, 2016
(minutes approved 12-12-16, 3-15-17)

Attendanace: Board: Holly Hanauer, Susan Bossung, Sherry Ware, Usha Shivaswamy, Sharon Seager, Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd. Jerry McKean was absent.

Visitors: John McKillip, Alice Bennett, Steve Robert.

Board members who were able to do so gathered at 5:30 pm, for the purpose of meeting with Joel Tishkin, who is applying for a position as intern at UUCM next year. Holly Hanauer, Susan Bossung, Sherry Ware, Usha Shivaswamy, and Sharon Seager were present. Board members talked to Tishkin about his religious background, current beliefs, philosophy, strengths he would bring to UUCM as an intern. Tishkin is currently working toward a Master of Divinity degree at Earlham School of Religion.

Motion Susan Bossung moved, and Sherry Ware seconded, to create a ministerial internship for Joel E. Tishkin. The internship will begin on August 1, 2017, and will last for 10 months. Tishkin's stipend will be \$10,000. Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd will supervise Tishkin's work. The motion passed unanimously.

The regularly-scheduled meeting of the Board of UUCM began at 6:45 pm. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Muncie with a chalice lighting, opening words, and a check-in. Members of the Board and the minister read the Covenant.

The Agenda was approved as distributed.

Minutes of the October 19, 2016 were approved as revised.

Board members briefly discussed the chapter "Mission," by Thom Belote, in *The Growing Church*.

Reports

President Holly Hanauer reported that the recently-held Congregational meeting on Nov. 13 was successful. She particularly praised the very clear presentation by Usha Shivaswamy, UUCM Treasurer, of the final report for the fiscal year 2015-16. Ron Moore, representing the Finance Committee, summarized the Financial Review recently completed of the church's financial records. Jerry McKean presented to the congregation an update of work being done by the Two Services Task Force.

Past President Sherry Ware reported that New Member dinners had been scheduled. She is exploring UUA materials available on membership development. She also reported on the recently-completed Bazaar (119th annual one).

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd urged Board members to look at links he sent to UUA materials on retention of new members.

Vice President Susan Bossung reported that Fellowship Committee is preparing for Harvest Feast, Property Maintenance Committee held two work sessions in preparation for the Bazaar. The Communications Committee still lacks a chair. Membership Committee is functioning well, and Stewardship Committee needs 2 more members. Adult Religious Education Committee is still floundering.

Treasurer Usha Shivaswamy presented Financial Statements showing Income and Expense from July through October 2016, and Balance Sheet Previous Year Comparison as of October 31, 2016.

New Business

The next monthly UUCM Board meeting will be on Monday, December 12, 2016, at 6:30 pm.

Unfinished Business

Rev. Seth reported (by e-mail on Nov. 17) that Joel Tishkin has accepted our offer to serve as our intern next year for 10 months, with a stipend of \$10,000.

Weather Policy

Rev. Seth presented a proposal for adoption as UUCM's official "Inclement Weather Policy." He spent considerable time researching policies of other UU congregations before writing this. The Decision-making about whether to cancel a Sunday service will be made by 8 am by the Board President and Minister. Notification of church closure will be made via a special eBlast, a message on the church voicemail system, and posts to public and private church Facebook pages. The closure announcement will be posted on the front page of the church website. Phone calls will go to those without regular internet access.

This policy will be on the December Board agenda.

Youth Board Member

There was a discussion of the idea of having a member of the youth group be invited to serve as an ex-officio member of the Board. The youth would have to be at least age 16, the minimum age for church membership. Rev. Seth reported that the youth were excited about the idea. This proposal could be carried out without changing the church by-laws, so long as the youth's vote would be ex-officio. Seth recommended consulting with Rev. Elizabeth Carrier-Ladd and Nadine Tringali about the best procedure to select this person.

Motion: Usha Shivaswamy moved and Susan Bossung seconded to create a Youth Board position, with ex officio powers, starting in January 2017 and continuing through June 2017. The motion passed unanimously.

Holly Hanauer will talk to Elizabeth and Nadine about implementing this proposal.

Book Discussion. A special meeting will be held for discussion of the books on size transition factors and difficulties, which several members of the congregation are reading. The time set for this meeting will be Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2017, from 2:00 to 3:30 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm. Respectfully submitted, Sharon Seager, Secretary.