

UUCM Board Meeting, February 21, 2018

Attendance: President Jerry McKean, presiding, Past President Holly Hanauer, Vice President John Bartlett, Treasurer Jennifer Hollems, Secretary Sharon Seager, Minister Rev. Seth Carrier- Ladd. Youth Representative Anna Dillinger was absent, but submitted her report by e-mail.

After check-in and Opening Words, the members and the minister read the Covenant. The agenda was approved as distributed.

Minutes of the January 17, 2018, meeting were approved as distributed, with the following addition: On page 2, the 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph should begin: It was announced that there was a miscommunication about the intended recipient of the designated offerings in January. The Social Justice Committee had already selected AWAKEN, which supports a medical facility and school in Afghanistan.

President Jerry McKean reported that in addition to regular duties of the position, he and other Board members met two times with the Committee on Ministries, as leaders discussed ways to deal with internal conflicts. A decision was made to hold two "Listening Sessions," which will provide opportunities for all members to express their feelings and hopes for the future of this congregation. He will convene a Safety Committee and appoint members to the Two Services Evaluation Committee.

Past President Holly Hanauer announced that a committee has been formed to assist Rev. Seth in applying for a grant from the Lilly Endowment Clergy Renewal Program. As provided in his contract and consistent with the norm in UU congregations, Rev. Seth will be taking a four- month sabbatical leave during the spring and summer of 2019. The congregation has provided a line item in the annual budget to provide for pulpit speakers during the leave, and the congregation should take the opportunity to be renewed in its ministry.

The Sabbatical Committee consists of Jerry McKean, Holly Hanauer, Annemarie Voss, Holly Ford, and Bill Frederick.

Past President Holly Hanauer met with the Nominating Committee, which is actively searching for leaders needed to serve on the Board and head committees during the next church year.

Vice President John Bartlett reported problems with the functioning and work of several committees. The Adult RE committee, by way of contrast, has met two times! Bartlett plans to publicize the ways that members can volunteer to join various committees.

Treasurer Jennifer Hollems reported that pledges are up compared to last year. We have more income due to Bridge the Gap donations. Property and Maintenance Expenses are on a par with last year, despite higher electricity costs and lower insurance costs. Our investments

remain strong, The Finance Committee has examined the feasibility of using the Crosley Fund for paying off the

Solar Panel loan and roof expenses. [see addendum below]

Youth Representative Anna Dillinger reported that the Coming-of-Age program has been going well. They are working to select a Social Justice project.

Youth Sunday will take place on February 25, when 12 to 16 youth will participate in the planning and presentation. The program will feature more writing directly from the youth, and

more musical performance.

Dillinger reported that currently seven youth have committed to the service journey to learn more directly about immigration issues. Next year's trip will be to Boston, birthplace of many of the UU ideas about religion.

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd reported that he is trying to do some different things in the (9:15) first service on Sundays, in order to build up attendance. Music Director Jim Helton has arranged for some special musical performances in that service only.

Carrier-Ladd expressed some frustration with the reluctance of many in the congregation to adapt more readily to some changes. Many of those who supported the Idea of Two Services have not, or not yet attended the earlier service.

Carrier-Ladd has been working with Joel Tishken, the ministerial intern who has now reached the halfway point in his internship.

President Jerry McKean will write and publish a special eBlast about the problems and conflicts that have surfaced in the congregation, which have concerned Board leaders and members of the Committee on Ministries.

[addendum] At a subsequent special meeting, held jointly on Feb. 28 with the Committee on Ministries, the Board briefly convened and made the following decision: John Bartlett moved that UUCM pay off both the roof loan and the solar panel loan with proceeds from the Crosley Fund. Holly Hanauer seconded the motion, and it passed, 4-0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Seager, Secretary of UUCM Board.