

Minutes
UUCM Board Meeting June 13, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 by President Jerry McKean. Present: Jerry McKean, Jennifer Hollems, John Bartlett, Mary Johnson Robey, Holly Hanauer, Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd, Intern Minister Joel Tishkin. Absent: Sharon Seager, Anna Dillinger. Visitors: Brandon Mundell, Lisa Cox, Jeff Turner, Steve Robert.

There were no minutes from the May board meeting available to approve.

The agenda was approved with a motion by Jennifer and second by John.

Special Presentation:

Elizabeth Carrier-Ladd, speaking on behalf of Nicole Kaplan, made a report on the possibility of housing a preschool at UUCM. There is a shortage of affordable preschools in Muncie. The most affordable options are usually at churches; many of those indoctrinate children in religion. Kaplan has a background in teaching preschool and has begun work on a proposal, including costs of staffing and tuition. Issues for UUCM to consider include increases in insurance, utility and custodial costs.

It was decided that the board would need to see a full proposal before it could make any decisions, and a task force would be helpful in considering the issues and creating a proposal. Mary will meet with Elizabeth and Nicole to set goals for a task force and create the wording for a motion for the July meeting creating such a task force.

Reports:

President Jerry McKean reported that there is now enough money to purchase the kitchen sanitizer. However, the installation costs an additional \$890, which includes transportation, pretesting, and removal and hauling away of the old unit. He encourages more gifts to cover these costs.

Past-President Holly Hanauer reported on the Nominating committee's work. All committees now have designated chairs except for Fellowship and Fundraising. (Update: Fellowship committee met on June 28 and Susan McGrath has agreed to be chair.) A Bazaar committee meeting will be convened soon by Bruce Craig. (Update: They met on July 5. Annemarie Voss will be chair. Main responsibilities are being delegated to other volunteers.)

Mary questioned why the Personnel Policy committee did not have any members. Seth explained that job descriptions have all been updated. Mary made a motion: The Past-President will work with the RE committee to appoint a member, and will seek two additional members for the Personnel Policy committee, per the Policy and Procedural Manual. Second by John; the motion passed.

Mary questioned whether the Investment committee has proper membership. The Policy and Procedure Manual states that three members should be elected by the congregation, and a member of the Finance committee should also be included. There was a discussion about the recent history of the committee and whether these membership requirements are necessary. Mary volunteered to rewrite the Investment committee entry for the manual before the July meeting for the Board's approval.

Vice-President John Bartlett reported that since we have gone back to one Sunday service, the hospitality teams are setting up coffee service in the sanctuary. The Program council did not meet in May, and it is unclear when or if there will be a June meeting.

Treasurer Jennifer Hollems reported on the church finances. There were no unusual or alarming circumstances to report.

Rev. Seth Carrier-Ladd reported that June's theme is Blessing. There is no theme for July or August. The worship associates have decided that the summer services will focus on the words of prophetic women and men.

Special ceremonies in the last four weeks included a Bridging ceremony for graduates, the Coming of Age service, recognizing volunteers, a farewell to intern Joel Tishkin, a Service Journey sending, and two child dedications. Coming up are the flower ceremony and dedication of youth artwork.

It has been decided that the water ceremony will be moved back, to the first Sunday after Labor Day.

Seth was invited to give the invocation at a recent fundraiser for Motivate Our Minds.

The new church directory will be published in July.

The youth groups' end-of-year party was held at Seth and Elizabeth's home.

Seth accompanied the youth on their Service Journey to Arizona.

The new Pastoral Associates' training session will be June 23; they will be ready to serve beginning July 1. Mary commented that it might be useful for the Pastoral Associates, Membership committee and Caring committee to meet together and discuss how they can help ensure that all functions of caring for the congregation are covered. Jerry added that membership retention could be part of this.

Megan Wenning has resigned as Membership Coordinator. The Membership committee has been filling in on Sunday mornings. Seth has begun the search process.

Kristie McCauley has resigned as Childcare Coordinator. Nadine Tringali is leading the search process.

Intern Minister Joel Tishkin's last day is June 15.

Music Director Jim Helton will be away for 8 weeks this summer. Michael Regney will fill in as pianist.

Unfinished Business:

Rainy Day property fund: The idea has been raised that any surplus in the property maintenance budget could be put away in a Rainy Day fund. Discussion points: The Finance committee feels that this practice could complicate balancing the budget when the finances are tight. The money has to actually exist, and this is not easy to determine. Such a fund would build up slowly and might only be a band-aid. A plan for large property maintenance expenses is needed (boilers!) This should be addressed by the Long-range Task Force and a deadline for their work should be set.

General Assembly : John made a motion: Appoint Mary and Kirk Robey as delegates to the UUA General Assembly. Second by Jennifer; the motion passed. John made a motion: Authorize the Minister to appoint any other delegates (up to 5) before General Assembly. Second by Jennifer; the motion passed.

Feedback Policy update: Jennifer has questioned the Houston minister further about confidentiality and training. Jerry has begun preparing a document describing terms and numbers for committee membership and some process details. Jennifer and Jerry will work together to put this document into policy language for the Policy and Procedure Manual before the July meeting, and will begin thinking of possible committee members.

Board Retreat date: The Board will hold its retreat on September 8, from 9 am to approximately 5 pm.

Committee on Ministries: Mary made a motion: Appoint Michael Sullivan and Ben Strack to the Committee on Ministries for a three-year term. Second by Jennifer; the motion passed.

Child Safety Policy: John has researched policies from other churches and has discussed them with Nadine. These examples are broader than our existing policy. Discussion points: This is a big project that will require time and possibly a task force.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15.

Submitted by Holly Hanauer.