

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Manhattan
Annual Meeting Minutes

The annual meeting of the membership of the UUFM was held Sunday, April 23, 2017. Quorum was present to meet requirements for voting. The proposed slate of officers and budget was published in the April 2017 newsletter.

Matt Campbell, Executive Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm. Reverend Jonalu Johnstone provided opening words about the differences in living and dying churches. Campbell continued with remarks that UUFM is a living church, a beacon in the community, thanks to Developmental Ministry.

Rev. Johnstone referred to the Minister's Report, and continued by saying she is pleased and proud to be our minister, and she is amazed by this congregation's commitment.

Campbell provided an update on Developmental Ministry. Over the past year, Rev. Johnstone and UUFM members have written letters to the editor, participated in social action within the community, started Chalice Circles, and increased interaction with the Unitarian Universalist Association- a valuable resource. Stewardship has focused on how to sustain full-time ministry; growth in merely membership numbers is not the mission, rather, growth in ways to support the mission. In conclusion, there is one year left on Rev. Johnstone's Developmental Ministry contract. Courtney Albin will be taking volunteers to serve on an assessment committee this fall, looking over what full time ministry has accomplished, where does UUFM stand now in relation to our goals, and what needs done in the future. There is an option to consider extending the Developmental Ministry contract up to two more years, if mutually agreeable.

Mark Clarke of the Nominating Committee presented the slate of officers. Chair, Matt Campbell, becomes Past Chair and Nominating Committee Chair for the next fiscal year; Chair Elect, Courtney Albin, becomes Chair; Kathleen Oldfather continues as Treasurer; Linda Kroeger continues as Member-at-Large. Slated for election were:

Jessica Sievers—Chair Elect
Chris Bailey—Secretary
Elias Martinson—Member-at-Large

Marisa Larson moved for casting a voice vote, the motion was seconded and passed.

Campbell gave a Strategic Planning Committee update. The committee has developed a timeline into short-term (six months), mid-term (6-24 months), and long term (2-5 years). Short-term priorities are Religious Education classrooms and parking space. Mid-term goals are to address guttering, the roof, locating and moving the septic field to expand the parking lot, possibly going to two Sunday services to address the space shortage. Long-term goals are to consider relocating within the city of Manhattan vs. remodeling and building onto the existing site. BBN Architects have been consulted and have provided a site assessment and feasibility study. Campbell made it clear that no solid decisions have been made for the long-term.

Kathleen Oldfather, Treasurer, presented the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 along with a thorough report. Total expenses are estimated to be \$176,660, an increase of 2.16% over last year's budget. Payroll makes up almost 75% of the budget, \$131,593. The Board included a \$1,000 raise for Rev. Johnstone to bring her in line with UUA recommendations, including small raises for other staff. Lay Leadership has been zeroed because we may access funds from the Community Foundation. The Building Contingency Fund has also been zeroed because the Facilities Committee has doubled its

budget for increasing the number of RE classrooms, and electrical work in the Alsop room. By the end of this fiscal year, \$29,000 of the \$70,000 in Ministerial Transition Savings Fund have been used for unmet expenses.

Nathan Albin moved to accept the proposed budget. The motion was seconded, followed by discussion. Cybil Perkins mentioned the [Greater Manhattan Community Foundation's] Grow Green Match Day monies. Oldfather reports that about \$6,000 of donations received will go toward the permanent endowment fund for Lay Leadership this year, the matched monies go toward Operations. Susan Adamchak asked about clarification on the transfer from the Building Contingency Fund to Facilities. This way, Facilities will be able to meet the short-term needs for RE classrooms, etc.

Elke Lorenz stated that the cost of utilities seems high, is there any way to decrease? Oldfather reports that this includes trash, telephone, electric, and gas. Mark Mayfield commented that it takes money to become more "green," possibly with programmable thermostats. Cybil Perkins suggested weatherizing the doors and windows. Campbell said the space is over 5,000 square feet, and the building is underutilized as a church, there has not been an energy assessment. Doug Walter added that the electric provider is Bluestem, which is higher than Westar. Someone asked about renting the UUFM, Rev. Johnstone replied that Kathleen Tanona is reviewing the rental rates, and rentals are up for the year.

Then, members proceeded to vote on the proposed budget. Motion passed by voice vote.

There was no new business. The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Sievers, Secretary with thanks and assistance from Chris Bailey