

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Manhattan  
Minutes

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board was held on Tuesday, May 9, 2017 beginning at 7 p.m.  
Present were:

Reverend Jonalu Johnstone, Minister  
Matt Campbell, Chair  
Courtney Albin, Chair Elect  
Chris Bailey, Member-at-Large  
Linda Kroeger, Member-at-Large  
Kathleen Oldfather, Treasurer  
Jessica Sievers, Secretary  
Sandy Nelson, Director of Religious Education

The meeting began with check in, and then Reverend Jonalu Johnstone provided opening words about ministers and church leadership setting a good course for congregants to follow, and then the chalice lighting.

Bailey moved to approve minutes of the February, March, and April Board meetings, Oldfather seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.

**Chair Report:**

- General Assembly- Taking recommendations for delegates

**Minister's Report:** (see report)

- Received lots of positive feedback after Letter to the Editor about campus noose
- Will host a table at Juneteenth celebrations
- Three Interim Co-Presidents appointed to UUA until the June election. They are reviewing hiring policies as they “move us toward our vision of the Beloved Community,” and addressing broader issue of how white supremacy shows up in Unitarian Universalism
- At Regional Assembly, said good-bye to Dori, but do not know how the region is planning to support developmental ministry
- Regional Assembly theme was multifaith work, with a presentation by Lee Barker of Meadville Lombard Theological School, and Eboo Patel of Interfaith Youth Corps addressing the ministers. Manhattan lacks true interfaith community, though there seems to be energy in that direction at this time
- I am establishing an interfaith or multifaith group. In this area, faith is too often considered the same thing as Christian, we need to have a counterbalance to that
- Spoke on a panel at KSU on Interbelief Dialog, a truly multi-faith group
- Pastoral concerns were greater this month than usual
- Led small memorial service for Phoebe Samelson at Meadowlark. A more comprehensive service will be held here May 27
- New newsletter format, better linking our on-line presence to our newsletter, thanks to Sue Turner, Marisa Larson, and Mark Clarke for bringing our communications strategies up to date
- The political situation continues to be anxiety-provoking. Sorting social action priorities in these circumstances is challenging
- Decide with Sunday Services Committee whether to do themes this summer
- Meeting with Chalice Circle facilitators to figure how to proceed with groups
- MAPJ Board meeting and attended program on peace in the Middle East, co-sponsored by us and the Mennonites

- Helped staff table at Gay Pride event
- Contacted 10 people who signed up for more information at the Gay Pride event
- Attended community meetings, including Common Table and Indivisible, Manhattan Ministerial Association, Affordable Housing Task Force of Making Change and Fair Housing Seminar, meeting in Topeka to coordinate our work in Kansas on youth and social justice, along with Sandy Nelson and Aimee Fowler
- Attended AWed dinner, UUFM Social Action Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, Board, and Congregational meetings, UUMA cluster, Regional Assembly and Regional Ministers' meeting
- Preached 4 Sundays here, including Question Box
- Led two Chalice Circles (recruited members), three Meditation Circles, Staff meeting, Meadowlark service
- Visitor contacts – 5
- Facebook outreach

**DRE Report:** (see report)

- April average attendance 19 students
- Family Fun event: Easter, Pride (Parade cancelled)
- Looking for teachers for summer programming
- May 21<sup>st</sup> service involving the youth and OWL
- 2017-18 class planning (need 2-3 teachers plus child care attendant)
- Parent Night Out- summer hiatus, resume in September
- Meeting in Topeka to coordinate our work in Kansas on youth and social justice
- Planning Youth Conference 7-12<sup>th</sup> grade here on May 12-13
- Teen Lunch (third Sundays)
- AWed participation and Sunday socializing
- Vacation in July

**Treasurer's Report:** (see report)

- April income \$13,722: \$8,507 pledges, \$3,558 ministerial transition contributions, \$416 Dillons fundraising, \$977 other
- Expenses \$16,313
- Net income -\$2,591
- \$2,000 moved to capital account (building account), \$2,358 outstanding dues paid, \$500 to catch up Happy Kitchen donation (\$100/month now)
- Year to date -\$5,062, includes \$15,000 transfer from ministerial savings
- Changed from PayPal to Vanco for cheaper on-line giving, no set up fee, \$0.45 transaction fee, 2.95% to credit card company
- Outstanding pledges \$9,742
- New pledges for next year \$90,705
  - \$12,830 in increases over last year of those who have pledged
  - Includes four new pledges
  - Stewardship Committee contacting remaining members
- Grow Green raised \$6,134, match amount to be announced
- Phoebe Samelson's daughter donating \$8,000 in memory of her mother

**New Business:**

- Midwest Leadership School July 9-15 Luther College- looking for attendees
- Rental request/Policy discussion:
  - Member vs. Non-member rates vs. 501C?
  - Bailey volunteered to review policy

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Sievers, Secretary