

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Manhattan  
Minutes

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board was held on Tuesday, August 11, 2015 beginning at 7 P.M. Present were:

Reverend Jonalu Johnstone, Minister  
Katie Kingery-Page, Chair  
Matt Campbell, Chair Elect  
Kathleen Tanona, Past-Chair  
Mark Clarke, Member-at-Large  
Chris Bailey, Member-at-Large  
Betty Banner, Treasurer  
Jessica Sievers, Secretary  
Susan Turner, Administrative Assistant  
Sandy Nelson, Director of Religious Education  
Scott Tanona, Stewardship

The meeting began with welcoming our new minister, Reverend Jonalu Johnstone, who provided opening words, the chalice lighting, then check in.

Sievers led a brainstorming session for the group to create a behavioral covenant for the minister, staff, and board.

The minutes of the June meeting were submitted in draft. Banner moved and K. Tanona seconded approving the minutes as corrected. The motion passed by voice vote.

**DRE Report:**

Nelson submitted a monthly report and added that the safety policies and practices may be expanded past RE leaders to others. The recent canoe trip was successful in part due to Dan Swenson making arrangements and funding from Larry Weaver. Nelson also reports that her coffee shop hours will resume this fall.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Banner submitted a monthly report. All the treasurer data is in a QuickBooks program, and assistance with organizing the data and showing transfer of funds is appreciated. Banner, Nelson, and S. Tanona are moving forward with this, a ministerial fund drive, and the new model of pledging.

**Stewardship Report:**

A report was submitted by S. Tanona, including the plan to implement year-round pledging by seeing one household per week. The amount of the chalice-lighter grant has not been revealed.

**Old Business:**

Highlights from the spring Council of Committees were reviewed:

- Grounds- Transitioning our grounds into a vision of permaculture
- Finance- Banner moved into treasurer's position
- Programming- needs support, may take a different approach with arrival of minister
- Welcoming- needs support
- Communications- no members

- Ministerial- Disbanded

Bailey, Marissa Larson, and Rev. Johnstone were delegated to produce some PR for our new, full-time minister.

**New Business:**

Kingery-Page led discussion on options for Developmental Ministry support from the MidAmerica Region leadership (see document). This will be voted on in the September meeting.

- Point of Clarification: They will allow us the option to call our developmental minister
- We lack networking with other UUs
- We have a static congregational size, but Rev. Johnstone states we are doing well being a 100+ congregation without a full-time minister, and...
- We have strong goals and have prioritized them
- We could benefit from the financial guidance
- In the past, we have budgeted for visiting ministers, would be a cost trade-off
- We are a fair share congregation
- Why should we turn away this resource?
- This could increase our visibility

**Executive Session:**

Bailey moved and Banner seconded to extend the meeting 10 minutes.

Kingery-Page stated that the IRS needs the board to vote regarding the minister's separation of salary and housing allowance. Banner moved and K. Tanona seconded a motion in favor of this separation, motion passed by voice vote.

Kingery-Page recommended designating a professional development stipend for Nelson as DRE. Sievers moved and Clarke seconded to table the motion, it was passed by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Sievers, Secretary