

Minutes UUFM Executive Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 8, 2019 7:00 pm – 9:15 pm

Rev. Jonalu Johnstone
Jessica Sievers, Chair
Courtney Albin, Past-Chair

Mark Mayfield, Chair-Elect
Eli Martinson, Treasurer
Kathleen Oldfather, Member at Large
Lily Colburn, Member at Large

Sandy Nelson, Director of Religious Education

Gather and Welcome

Opening Words – Rev. Jonalu Johnstone- from *Upcycle your Congregation*, “Join our cause not our club.”

Consent Agenda: The December Minutes Approved with no changes. Eli Martinson moved, Lily Colburn seconded, motion passed by voice vote.

Updates from Chair: – Jessica Sievers

- a) Celebrations-
- b) Gratitudes- to Dan Swenson, Mark Clarke, and Les Loschky for helping with the drainage repairs on the southeast side of the building. This required digging trenches, laying PVC pipe, and cleaning the roof drains.
- c) Highlights from the “Meeting of Past Chairs” were noted. Rev. David Jones facilitated the meeting. We used a SWOT Analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) to analyze the Fellowship. We might keep these in mind as we move forward and begin work on a new mission statement. Positive comments about the day were noted. No formal follow-up at this time.

New Business:

Dan Swenson reviewed the “December 2018 Report from Facilities Committee” and “Summary of Roof bids” which included photos and information about the problems and two proposals for solutions for the roof. He noted a good turnout at their meeting. The Facility committee members all agreed to recommend the Danker project and bid. The cost is approximately \$20,000. Should probably budget \$22,500.

Dan also reported that Michael Oldfather and Rev. Jonalu Johnstone also attended the Facilities meeting and wanted to discuss parking issues. Oldfather brought previously plans to increase the number of spaces. With more visitors we need more spaces. Dan has talked to Katie Kingery-Page about looking at the landscaping issues related to parking. The Committee may work on a proposal for increased parking later in the spring.

MOTION: Mark Mayfield moved we accept the Danker bid to repair and upgrade the roof, pending Congregational approval of financing from Expendable Endowment Funds not to exceed \$25,000. Courtney Albin seconded. Motion passed by a voice vote.

Minister’s Report: In her submitted report, Rev. Jonalu Johnstone asked about creating designated “Visitor” parking spots. She notes that attendance is up about 20 people a Sunday. She asks that we remind/ask regular members to sit up front. There are lots of other things going on. She will be participating in the Kansas People’s Agenda next week.

Recently, after a Finance Committee meeting and a discussion of program budgets, Jonalu spent some time looking at how she divides her time. She described the breakdown in the document “Division of Minister’s Work.” This is her best estimate at this time.

- 34% Worship and other spiritual deepening
- 25% Social Justice and Charitable work
- 8% Other outreach
- 15% Pastoral Care and Connections
- 5% Religious Education
- 5% Denominational Activities
- 8% Administration

On February 3rd there will be a Feedback Circle after the service— for anyone to give feedback about Sunday services.

DRE Report – Sandy Nelson- see report –

Numbers are up again. Thanks to Molly McGaughey for getting the float done for the Holiday Parade. About 19 participated.

The Alsoop room space is getting to be a problem for lots of reasons. Sandy will try some other arrangements on Sundays to accommodate needs.

The Owl program starting soon is going to be a large class for 4th-6th graders—now up to 19 kids. It looks like we will teach a morning class 9:00-10:15 and 12:30–1:30. About 6 students will come from outside the UUFM Community. Jessica asked about any new training opportunities. There is nothing close by right now. Several UU parents have expressed an interest in getting the training. Courtney asked if we could hold the training. We could do it, but costs of about \$1500+ would be involved.

Stewardship – Scott Tanona

Scott came to discuss several ideas. The first came out of a UUA Webinar that several members have recently watched. In general, he feels we do pretty well with our pledging participation both in numbers and levels. But it is worth thinking about what role our giving is playing in contributing to our “culture of generosity.”

He introduced the idea of a Reverse Offering. During a reverse offering, the baskets are passed around. There is money in the envelopes. Everyone takes an envelope. You are then charged to do something with the money in the community. It is a “communal” activity. Then everyone reports back to share what they did with that money. He proposes we do it January 20, 2019 in the services for all ages. Jessica has lined up some donors. We would need about \$2000 to do it.

He suggests we consider doing a Helping Hands month in the future. One organization would be named for each month. Some discussion and logistical things need to be worked out.

Last, he would like us to be more intentional about reporting back to people about what has been given for a particular offering. It would be good to do this for everything we do.

It was suggested that Finance talk about it more, but a majority of the Board accepts it on a trial basis. Kathleen Oldfather spoke out against it since we have a large deficit budget, it needs a lot of communication, and we may lose some donations from visitors and others who want to give to the Fellowship.

Treasurer's Report – Eli Martinson

Eli will be sending out 2018 Calendar Year donation reports. Eli received and will work on the annual Finance part of the statement to UUA due February 1. He said that the Finance Committee began discussions about a pledge drive.

In reviewing the report, he noted that pledges received by this time last year were ahead of this year.

Kathleen asked if the Happy Kitchen payments had been made. It will be researched and paid.

Board Nominating Committee. Past Chair, Courtney Albin, nominated Michael Oldfather, Rob Morrison, and Deirdre Greeley to serve on the Nominating Committee. Kathleen Oldfather moved to accept these nominees. Seconded by Mark Mayfield. Motion passed by a voice vote.

Congregational Meeting Agenda was briefly discussed as follows:

1. Congregational vote on roof
2. Discussion Forum about Shared Space with Mennonites:
 - (1) Financial Aspect- Eli
 - (2) Memorial Garden Concerns- Molly McGaughey/Katie Kingery-Page
 - (a) Cremains
 - (b) No laws found in researching
 - (3) Parking, sustainability, in-town real estate availability
 - (4) Open discussion in small groups
 - (5) Listen to ideas/concerns

Meeting Adjourned 9:05pm Courtney Albin moved. Mark Mayfield seconded. Approved.

Next Meeting February 12, 2019 at 7pm

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Oldfather standing in for Chris Bailey