



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Oxford
31 County Road 198, Oxford, MS 38655

UUCO Board of Trustees Minutes

11/15/2015

The meeting began at 9:35am with Greg Johnson, Marjorie Holland, Walter Flaschka, Carla Carr, and Vicki Reithel attending. Walter Flaschka kept the minutes.

1. **Check-ins from:** Greg, Walter, Carla, Vicki, Marge
2. **Process observer appointed**
 - a. Greg will be process observer for this meeting
3. **Review of minutes of last meeting**
 - a. Trustees reviewed the minutes and made clarifications:
 - i. Carla (mentioned in item #4) was *relying* rather than suggesting the idea of re: announcements of financial support during services.
 - ii. Walter (mentioned in item #6) did not send a letter to the congregation; Walter was supposed to re-send the letter to Greg.
 - iii. Vicki clarified #5 about the Leadership Development Committee (LDC) (see more information below).
 - b. After discussion, the minutes were determined to be substantially correct and well done. Vicki Reithel motioned to approve the minutes without any of the minor modifications; approved.
4. **Review of Finances**
 - a. The board reviewed the final 2015-2016 budget, received earlier from the Financial Trustee.
 - b. The Board will form an *ad hoc* subcommittee to meet with Sandra Moss and learn the new financial software. Subcommittee members:
 - i. Greg Johnson
 - ii. Walter Flaschka
5. **Membership Trustee (MT)**
 - a. The MT is a congregation member who is suggested and approached by the Leadership Development Committee (LDC) to coordinate the membership activities at UUCO.
 - b. Dan Mattern of the LDC, in a letter to Vicki Reithel, gave a general status update. Dan also stated that the Board can simply *assign* someone to be the Membership Trustee. Walter proposed assigning Dan Mattern as the next LDC. This was not approved.



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- c. Next steps: Some Trustees will meet informally with members of the LDC to determine its current status and the intentions of its members.

6. Adding UUCO President to the UUCO bank account

- a. The board affirms that the UUCO President (Greg Johnson) should be added to the bank account.
- b. Due to bank policy, many of the current signatories on the account need to be present at the same time at the bank, in order to effect this change. Sandra Moss is coordinating this process.

7. Give Away the Plate (“GAtP”)

- a. On November 03, 2015, the Financial Trustee sent a document (FIN - 109 - UUCO Give Away the Plate Policy.docx) proposing changes to the UUCO GAtP policy.
- b. Board discussion ranged across the following topics. Some UUCO members have made it known they would prefer that the GAtP continue to be a monetary gift as it has been in the past, rather than a limited monetary gift with a donation box as it is presently managed. Greg Johnson mentioned that he considered the GAtP procedures, instated for the second half of 2015, to be a temporary stopgap measure to make up a fiscal deficit in the current budget year. However, the GAtP as announced to UUCO members seems to have been received as a permanent, institutionalized process. During the discussion it came to appear that the question to be answered is whether to: [a] continue the current practice as an *ad hoc* measure; [b] revert to the prior practice; or [c] institutionalize the new GAtP procedure. Carla Carr provided the perspective (not necessarily her own) that GAtP is presently the church's only social action, and limiting the GAtP limits the UUCO's expression of social action. Discussion was tabled so trustees can consider the question.

8. Nursing Home Benefit

- a. The board will gather more information about this benefit; it may be possible to GAtP but we can't be sure at the moment.

9. Trustee Reports

- a. Vicki Reithel -- Sunday Services had no current service schedule to distribute at this meeting, but services are largely planned through MLK Day 2016.
- b. Carla Carr -- Halloween event went well. The event was attended by many people with kids and some without, it was both inside and outside, and there were board games this year. Extra firewood from the event is in one of the sheds.



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- c. Walter Flaschka -- Showed that website traffic is growing, with interesting spikes in activity. Documents and information are being updated on the website and in the Board's shared cloud drive.
 - d. General discussion -- Sandra Moss's in-service review of the website went well in late-ish October, and many service attendees expressed interest and surprise at the level of development of the website.
 - e. The history of the UUCO website:. Raymond Prach created the very first UUCO website, which was taken over by John Schuster when Raymond died. After John Schuster's death, James Church took over the website. Lizzy Graves took over the website when James Church left the board, and re-created it in its current incarnation on a new web host. Presently, the website is regularly updated by Sandra Moss, with technical assistance and some irregular updates by Walter Flaschka.
10. Sandra Moss
- a. Carla Carr motioned that the Board invite Sandra Moss to attend the Board meetings, since she is a critical employee of UUCO and has particular insight into UUCO's daily operations. She will be paid for her time at the meetings. Marjorie Holland seconded the motion. Motion approved by Board. Greg Johnson will discuss this with Sandra Moss.
11. Marjorie Marge Holland suggested setting the date of the next Board meeting.
- a. 5:30pm Monday, December 07, 2015 -- location TBD.
12. Meeting concluded at approximately 10:45am.