



## July 22, 2014 - **Monthly Board Meeting Minutes**

**Call to Order-** 6:30 p.m.

**Board members attending:** Jack Harvey, Cheryl Kellogg, Steve Bornhoff, Chris May, Jo Shaffer, Bob Nixon, Diane Mouskourie

**Board members missing:** Dan Cross

**Any other attendees:** Al Burgermeister, John Shaffer, Charissa Thacker

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Following the reading of the board covenant and lighting of the chalice, board president Jack Harvey welcomed new board members and team leaders. He gave a brief overview of various lessons he learned during meetings he attended. First he discussed his attendance at the UU presidents' meeting in Birmingham. Jack suggested the board understand what costs and processes will be required to hire a full-time minister (in the 5-year plan). He wants everyone to start thinking in terms of growth by temporarily expanding meeting space so that the congregation can grow enough to afford a minister. At the same time he wants to ensure that whatever decisions are made involving growth that current UU members' needs are met.

Harvey then briefed the board on the UUOBC team structure and that any changes or decisions being made are a "labor in love."

Jo Shaffer suggested that all team leaders review their processes to assess how well they are working. She said the board looks to team leaders before finalizing its budget.

Jo also said it would be wise to advise all UU members of board meetings and let them know the board will welcome anyone interested in becoming more involved with UU activities in any way.

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**Secretary:** Approval of board minutes: Jo Shaffer motioned to accept the minutes as submitted. Cheryl Kellogg seconded. Board approved unanimously.



**Treasurer: Approval of Treasurer's report:** Steve Bornhoff told the board he met with Ken Sizemore to discuss the processes involved in accomplishing the duties of board treasurer. He plans to have other meetings with Ken in the near future to become even more familiar with his newly assigned duties.

Steve gave board members a copy of the year-end budget and advised them of a \$6,500 remaining, with \$3,000 dedicated to specific purposes and said that money could either be targeted toward other needs or placed in the general fund. After much discussion the board decided to allocate the money as follows: \$900 to replace water heater, \$1,800 to purchase and upgrade audiovisual equipment, \$500 for marketing brochures, \$1,250 plus money raised by ECPC fundraiser to fund community garden project. The board agreed to remove \$600 music contingency from budget and add back in to general fund as a contingency.

Board approved changes unanimously.

Steve suggested the board develop a simple process be created to approve minimal expenses.

Jack discussed the ongoing saga of the donated vehicle which has been donated to Henry Lawrence III since he lost his vehicle in a wreck. The church will turn over title and it will be Henry's responsibility to get tags and title.

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### **Standing Agenda:**

**Resource Development:** John Shaffer advised the board of the necessity to schedule the Harvest for Power training that takes place in two-hour sessions over 12 weeks. Jo Shaffer added the the new bylaws require leadership training and the necessity for the president and vice president to have experience conducting the training. She said each team has responsibilities but they all need to keep autonomy while getting their jobs done.

**Faith Development:** Jack advised Chris May to develop a quick elevator speech that members of UU could recite when asked by individuals what UU is all about. Chris said she had plenty of material to work with and would be glad to oblige.

She said she would get with Tiffany Sapp to work on that goal.

The discussion led to noting that UUOBC has a healthy congregation of members who look out for other members, but more needs to be done to follow up on members who have been missing from services for a while.

Al said things that have been tried in the past to keep track of such things had been working but had slacked off recently. He suggested revisiting the subject and coming up with ideas to keep better track of members' needs: who is sick, who might need work done and who are willing to pay even a small amount and then identify other members willing to help meet those needs. Al also suggested someone be identified to keep track of joys and concerns to be followed up on at a later date.

**Vision & Growth:** Al updated the board on his memo regarding a suggested trip by small team UUOBC members to Appleton, WI to shadow the reverend and his congregation in growing a fellowship. Al told the board what “our fellowship has experienced since 2011 is extraordinary and shows how the congregation has grown” pointing to building renovation/expansion, the budget growth, hiring a staff person. He said the concern now is to keep the momentum of growth instead of the natural response to relax.

After a recent visit to the Appleton congregation Al said he was blown away by the energy and enthusiasm through collaboration, leadership and empowerment of members.

Appleton was one of the first fellowships to join in the UU Leap of Faith program, one of the first mentoring programs to other fellowship of similar size with desire and willingness to grow.

Al suggested the board approve the selection of a small team of dedicated UUOBC members make a trip to Appleton to gain as much knowledge as possible over a three-day weekend at the end of October. The UU would pay traveling expenses for two members. The team would be housed at UU members’ home in Wisconsin for the time. The board approved unanimously. It was added that any other members could attend if they were willing to pay their own expenses. The board gave Jack and Jo the authority to decide on the selection.

**UU Environment:** Cheryl told the board said that discussions were held on how to handle handicapped parking. She said the fence by the designated handicapped parking area had already been moved back several feet which gives more access. The board also discussed fixing the area between the building and the carport and suggested the removal of the mid-section of the flower bed.

The idea of adding more handicapped parking on the side of the trees near the front of the sanctuary has been postponed until there is a decision of how to treat the surface area.

**Social Justice:** Jo said Bob Gilmore would like to remain as chair of the team despite his long absences this summer. Bob Nixon agreed to remain as his liaison when Gilmore is unavailable. Jo briefly discussed some of the activities the BYILD teens have been involved in. She is pleased with how everyone seems to be taking an active role in working with the girls of Claire house but would like to see what kind of activities would bring more involvement from the general membership. Discussions to follow.

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**Additional Agenda Items:** Jo discussed recent meetings of the Interfaith Council and how the group continues to grow with representatives of many faiths

becoming involved. She also mentioned the need to advertise the UU faith at events such as the upcoming International Festival and to publicize the faith-based group. UU has been selected to host a meeting of the group at the fellowship with 8 faiths being represented.

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***Adjournment:*** 9:15 p.m.

***Next board meeting:*** August 19, 2014