

The meeting began at The Chapel of Our Guardian Angels at 11:37am.

Chair: Kim Nowack chaired the meeting.

Present from sign-up sheet: (* = non-member):

Kim Nowack, Marla Houghteling, Norm Mottl, Betty Palm, Joe Palm, Roger Srigley, Alan White, Allison White, Diane Lake, John Lake, Mark Kinney, Nancy Kinney, Larry Dyer, Mary James, Connie Baker, Tom Beukema, Hillary Walton*, Greta Jacobsen

Committee sign-up sheets:

Signup sheets were circulated for Program Committee, Facilities Committee, Green Committee, Outreach Committee, Membership Committee, Hospitality Committee, Music Committee, Internet Communications Committee. Revised committee membership lists are now posted on the website.

Determine a quorum: 17 members attending which met the quorum (9 members required)

Approve the agenda: the agenda was approved

Approve previous minutes: Kim reviewed the main points of the 2017 Annual Meeting minutes which were approved

Welcome: Kim

Light the Chalice: Marla

Open the business meeting: Kim

DIRECTOR REPORTS

President: Kim noted the pleasure she has had working with the board over the past year, the board's accomplishments under her leadership and a willingness to serve another term as President.

Vice-President: Marla evaluated her term's accomplishments measuring them against section 1B of UUCOP's Operations and Procedures Manual which describes the Vice President's duties

Secretary: Joe was interim secretary to the board for the past 6 month and expressed hope someone will step forward to fill the vacant position

Treasurer: Roger

Roger provided copies of the *UUCOP 2017-18 Annual Meeting Financial Report* projected through June 2018 and a report of *UUCOP Assets as of 06/01/18* (see email attachments). He reviewed and answered questions about line items in the 2018-2019 budget and other items in these reports. Tom moved, and Mark seconded a motion to approve the treasurer's report. The motion passed unanimously.

Website Trustee: Joe

The website continues to be a way for people looking for a tolerant, diverse community for spiritual growth to find us.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Program Committee: Kim

Kim provided copies of a spreadsheet showing the services for which we have committed leaders up to November. Despite the absence of a Program Chair, Kim the board and programming committee members have been able to provide that service calendar

Green Committee: Kim

We are using Fair Trade coffee. Our MDOT pickups have cut back to two. Comments were made about doing a pick-up on a road where there would be more trash and our MDOT sign would be more prominent. Kim noted dwindling numbers of pick-up volunteers. The board will investigate possibly changing our pickup area.

Facilities (aka Building) Committee: Diane

Diane noted our acquisition of the new chalice and bowl, the signage outside the Chapel showing our service times and addressed questions and comments about the time frame for Colleen's plans for renovations of the Chapel and the degree of the congregation's involvement in those renovations.

Membership: Roger expressed the board's commitment to increase our congregation's numbers

Hospitality: Kim expressed appreciation for John acting as greeter. Marla & Norm will handle coffee making for services. Marla asked of the congregation members that they assist with set up and take down for services.

Music: John reminded us that Isaac our interim pianist will start college in the fall so we need to locate someone besides Nancy to play piano at services and reminded that the piano needs the 2nd of its twice-yearly tunings.

Outreach: Kim

UUCOP continues to provide matching funds up to \$200 for donations for our quarterly giving. Suggestions for upcoming quarterly giving may be given any board member

Khasi Hills project: Nancy noted that our support of Faithify in India is appreciated and the project's garden now provides a bounty.

NEW BUSINESS

Emergency awareness for Chapel: Joe presented things the congregation can do to protect itself in the event of an armed intruder.

Survey results discussion: there were 15 respondents to the online survey out of 29 congregation members; the number of responses to each option follow that option.

Marla introduced the discussion on:

Q1: What should the UUCOP do with property we own on Wildwood Road?

- a) Explore sale of the property - 13
- b) Retain the property and continue to pay yearly taxes – 1
- c) Other - 1

Marla provided a history of the Wildwood property which was purchased in 2001 on a loan of \$42,000 subsequently repaid by congregation members' donations. The loan was made by John and Florence Ailes in the hope that it would move us toward a permanent home. Improvements to the property (a road in, storage shed and other such) added around \$10,000 to the investment. The current SEV of the property is \$10,100.

A discussion followed including comments:

- should the proceeds of a sale be committed to a building fund or remain uncommitted to allow for future needs?
- did the intent of the Ailes' loan constrain the sale of the property; Diane said it does not
- we should sell now since an adjacent property owner has expressed interest
- the property is a capital asset which if converted to cash might not be available in the future.
- only half the congregation members completed the survey
- all congregation members were notified the survey results would be discussed at the annual meeting

Allison moved, and Roger seconded a motion to have the board move with due haste to explore sale of the property. A vote on the motion was deferred until after we had discussed the second question on the survey. At that time the motion passed with 1 opposing.

Kim: introduced the discussion on:

Q2: In the near future should the UUCOP focus on obtaining a permanent building or the services of a minister (full or part-time)?

- a) Focus on a minister - 9
- b) Focus on a building - 3
- c) Other - 3

A discussion followed including comments:

- the survey question was too limiting; there are other possibilities
- only half the congregation responded to the survey
- congregation members were notified the issue was to be discussed

Diane moved and Roger seconded a motion directing the board to explore hiring a part-time minister

- a minister's wages, benefits would impact a budget which has been balanced
- the UUA should be contacted; possibly a retired minister is available
- increased pledging would be needed (same for a building); is congregation willing to up pledges?
- regional UUA says we don't need to do more than what's in our bylaws to hire a minister
- UUA has detailed hiring guidelines but doesn't sanction a congregation that doesn't follow them
- use of periodic guest ministers instead of full or part-time?
- ordination not required

The motion passed with 1 opposing and 3 abstentions

Joe introduced the discussion on:

Q3: Would you agree that UUCOP should join Michigan Interfaith Power and Light (MIPL) by accepting its covenant? Joe 5 mins)

- a) Yes -13
- b) No - 1
- c) Other - 1

Betty moved and Roger seconded a motion that the UUCOP join MIPL. The motion passed with 2 abstentions.

Election of officers: Roger 5 mins

Slate: President (2 year): Kim Nowack

Vice President (2 year): John Lake

Secretary (2 year): Tom Beukema was nominated and accepted

Program Chair (1 year): No accepted nominations. The board has the option to fill the post at some future time

Director (website trustee, 1 year): Joe Palm

The slate was accepted by unanimous acclamation.

Adjourned: 1:45pm

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Palm