

Unitarian Universalists of Benton County

Board Meeting Minutes

5 Cunningham Lane, Bella Vista

February 16, 2016

Present: Lauren Galle, Michelle Harvey, Jim Jensen, Julie Jensen, , Hannah Roberts
Kathy Rogers, Harris McKee.

Absent: Suzanne Miltich, Tony Potochnik.

1. Treasurer's Report:

- Jim reported sending out bank statement which showed \$600 increase over previous month but noted that an uncashed rent check would reduce to about even..
- Year-end receipt for individual contributions have been distributed.

2. Update on UUA Membership

- Harris reported that he, Jim Jensen, and Michelle Harvey had met with Rev. Jim Parrish of UUFF this afternoon; he will be writing a letter of recommendation for our packet. He used the meeting to build a tie between our congregations.
- Rev. Kenn Hurto, Lead Executive for the UUA Southern Region, is providing a letter of recommendation.
- With the two letters of recommendation, we will be able to complete the packet which Harris is assembling.

3. Calendar for Elections and Canvass

- Michelle provided the draft of the annual calendar which she has maintained and the board plugged in some specific dates.
 - March 20: World Cafe (Topic to be confirmed) Suggested Theme: "Joining UUA, What Does It Mean?"
 - April 3: Kick off of Canvass led by Michelle
Call for nominations for Board Positions and Nominating Committee
 - June 5: Annual Meeting & Election of Board Members & Nominating Committee
 - July: New Board Seated

4. Sunday Service Schedule--Julie Jensen provided the tentative Sunday schedule attached as Appendix I. Nearly all services through July 3rd are planned. Those with issues to be resolved are printed in red.

- **Fifth Sunday**--This year fifth Sundays occur in January, May, July, and October. It was noted that in the past we supported a work day at Hobbs State Park, participated in a clean-up of the Elk River and packed bags for "3 Bags in 2 Days. A new possibility was proposed called "Laundry Love" in which an organization supports a day at the laundry for homeless by providing cash at a Laundromat for them to wash their clothes. It was also noted that the July fifth Sunday might be a very good time to do another Elk River clean-up day.

5. Arkansas Cluster

- Lauren reviewed the Draft Cluster Covenant attached as Appendix II. Board agreed to support the Covenant as presented.

- There is a cluster meeting coming up this spring; Lauren will check to see if Carol Bobek can represent us.
- Lauren noted that Eureka Springs has been unresponsive to recent cluster emails
- Rev. Jim Parrish suggested that we could consider a joint sponsorship of a fall cluster meeting.

6. Membership Team Update--Mary McKee

- Mary reported that she and Suzanne have met three times to formulate a reinvigorated Membership Team. She shared several documents including:
 - Their November Agenda,
 - A Hospitality Assessment instrument for examining Membership committee strengths and efforts
 - A Welcome to Our Community piece that could be used as a brochure
 - A UUA Membership Manual
- **Team Leadership and Make-up.** Ellen Bell is considering being chair and Lauren Boer has shown interest in participating.
- **Volunteer Sign-up**--Board agreed having sign up for Membership Committee and other positions would be desirable at conclusion of World Cafe.
- **We Missed You Follow-up.** Board asked Kathy Rogers if she would send *we miss you* electronic cards until Membership team is up to speed. She agreed. Board's challenge is how to assist Kathy in identifying recipients.

7. Directory Update--Harris reported that he has updated the Directory on the Website under the Member Only Tab to reflect the available information on all persons included in our email distribution list, and the treasurer's tracking system.

8. Other Issues

- Hannah asked that we investigate sponsoring a Bentonville Park. Harris will follow-up.
- Amazon Smiles--Jeff recently forwarded a suggestion that we include UUBC as a group which could take advantage of a program at Amazon. Harris confessed that is an action item assigned to him that is unfinished.

Action Items

	Issue/Action	Responsibility	Status
1	Suggestion Box Construction	Jim	
2	Improve publicity on TED Talks	Lauren	
3	Current Duties Documentation for Lauren	All except Harris	
4	Master Document Definition	Lauren	
5	Set up Smiles Option with Amazon.com	Harris	NFTR
6	Revise Skills Survey	Lauren	

Action items not addressed at this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Harris McKee, Secretary Pro-tem

Appendix I. Sunday Programs

January 10 - July 3, 2016

January 10 - Cancelled

January 17 - Offers the opportunity to discuss two recent talks: Kate Mc Williams' "The Stirrings of Compassion" and Dr. Jeffrey Tate's "Would Jesus Celebrate Christmas?"

January 24 - Jeff Tate, "The Ideal Spouse," Part One

January 31 - Membership Sunday/Potluck

February 7 - Rev. Sara Bainbridge (retired United Methodist minister on "Spirituality and Choices"

February 14 - Discussion

February 21 - Jeff Tate, "The Ideal Spouse," Part Two

February 28 - Potluck and Bonnie Faitak, Samaritan Kids Coordinator, will tell us about the SnackPack program

March 6 - Jeff Tate, "The Ideal Spouse," Part Three

March 13 - Discussion

March 20 - World Cafe (focus yet to be decided) + choir

March 27 - Jeff Tate's Easter Homily

April 3 - Jim Parrish on environmental justice + *Michelle's pledge drive pitch*

April 10 - Discussion

April 17 - **Hobson or Rule** + *call for nominations for UUBC Board and 2017 nominating committee*

Sunday, April 24 - Potluck **and short talk by Life Styles?? (Michelle)**

Sunday, May 1 - **????**

Sunday, May 8 - Discussion

Sunday, May 15 - Jeff Tate on meditation

Sunday, May 22 - **Potluck and** **????**

Sunday, May 29 - **Memorial Day weekend**

Sunday, June 5 - Edgewalker and author Dr. Judi Neal on "Living Your Noble Purpose in Life and Work" + *Annual Meeting (voting on annual budget and nominees for UUBC Board and 2017 nominating committee)*

Sunday July 3 - Jim Young on creativity

Appendix II. Draft Arkansas UU Cluster Covenant
Presented to UUBC Board, February 16, 2016

Purpose: The Arkansas UU Cluster gives member congregations the ability to do great things beyond what we do in our own congregations which include fellowship, education, support and promoting UU values throughout the state.

In order to promote Unitarian Universalism in the state of Arkansas, all Arkansas Unitarian Universalist Congregations covenant together to:

1. Agree to participate in AR UU Cluster events by encouraging and supporting attendance from our congregations.
2. Provide a named member as a cluster representative to be active in the Steering Committee and to keep the Board of Directors, leaders and members of the congregation informed of Cluster plans and actions.
3. Host or co-host Cluster events on a rotating basis, not more often than every 1.5 years.
4. Provide resources and encouragement to member congregations within our capabilities.
5. Collectively plan and share expenses for leadership, RE and professional trainings during Cluster events.
6. Share UU focused outings and camps
7. Value and be respectfully cognizant of the difference in sizes, locations, and spirit of each congregation as we make our plans
8. Promote time, resources, and people to accomplish AR UU Cluster goals and encourage collaboration whenever possible.
9. Agree to be transparent in all our workings
10. To treat each participant, whether it be an individual or congregation, with respect and compassion.