

**MINUTES OF THE UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST
CONGREGATION GRAND TRAVERSE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
August 15, 2016**

Linda Fletcher convened the meeting at 5:32 p.m.

Present: Board members Loraine Anderson, Linda Fletcher, Gretchen Kronk, Don Pyne, Kay Sturgeon, Phyllis Jessup Karl Love. Rabbi Chava Bahle, a non-voting ex-officio member.

Congregational members present: Barb Gibson, Hal Gurian Mary Van Valin, Mike and Sandra McDonald, Richard Miller, Ann Swaney, Rick Walters, Judith Briggs, Marilyn Mayo.

Board members read the Covenant. Karl read the code of conduct policy for board members.

Motion by Kay, seconded by Karl, to approve the Consent Agenda with discussed changes to the minutes. Motion passed.

The board briefly discussed the Consent Agenda and Robert Rules of Order.

The **consent agenda** is a SINGLE ITEM that allows members to vote without discussion on a group of normally approved, noncontroversial items such as minutes, financials, paying the bills, etc.

Roberts Rules of Order is a recognized guide to conducting meetings and making decisions effectively and fairly.

New board President Linda Fletcher, in her opening remarks, talked about her vision for the board. It includes the following:

- All board action will be founded on conventional behavior and modeled in a fashion that requires good communications, which she believes are fundamental to all committee work.

- All actions need to be founded on kindness and compassion.

- One of her goals this year is for the board to study and reflect on where we want our congregation to be in the future, but not make great changes.

She also noted that monthly board meetings will be open meetings to greatest extent possible. Monthly executive board meetings to put together the agenda are for board officers only. Public comment will be held at the beginning of the meetings.

PLEDGE DRIVE UPDATE

Kay, the board treasurer, gave an update on this year's pledge drive. The pledge drive team will hold its first meeting in September to review and brainstorm old and new ways of running the

annual drive. The early start, she said, will help reduce pressure on the team and give it more time to collect pledges. She is in the process of creating a think tank of four congregation members who will work this fall. Members so far are herself as treasurer, finance chairman Mike McDonald, congregation member Jan Zerbel.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE TASK FORCE/ALTERNATIVE STEWARDSHIP FINANCIAL MODELING

Vice President Phyllis Jessup reported on the Alternative Stewardship Financial Modeling Committee, a long-term planning group now in formation stage to design an organizational structure that will support efficient operation, maximize the strengths of employees and committees and take a new look at stewardship as an umbrella over giving and financial management. Committee members include Phyllis, past pledge team leader Judy Myer, board member Don Pyne and congregation member Tom Darnton.

BUILDING USE FEES

Phyllis also reported that she, task force member Price Watts and Office Administrator Susan Sherman are reviewing UUCGT building use fees and rental rates and likely will propose an average 10 percent increase to the Policy Committee. Existing rates were established in January 2011.

SAFE CONGREGATION COMMITTEE

Committee liaison Kart Love reported that the Safe Congregation Committee elected Nick Erber and Ann Marie Love as co-chairs.

YOUNG FAMILY FOCUS COMMITTEE

Board member Don Pyne reported that the Young Family-Focus Committee is now in the works. Congregation member Richard Miller will be part of it. The committee's goal is to attract young families with children. A chair person has yet to be chosen.

HEALTHY RECONCILIATION TASK FORCE.

Linda reported that about 50 people have participated in the Healthy Reconciliation listening project and praised congregation members Joan Sheard and Jane Watts for their work. She said the project was well received and that participants were grateful for the opportunity to speak and be heard.

Confidential and anonymous listening data will be compiled in an October report to the board. It will be available on an individual basis to all members of the congregation upon request.

The meeting ended at 7:10 p.m. The next board meeting is September 19 at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Board secretary Loraine Anderson