



Second Unitarian Church of Chicago
Board of Trustees
September 14, 2016 Meeting
Minutes
Approved October 12, 2016

Attendees

Trustee	Attending (Y/N)	Trustee	Attending(Y/N)
Susan Zeigler, Past Chair	Y	Dana Hill, Treasurer	Y
Tom Denio, Chair	Y	Mary-Helen Steindler, Council Chair	Y
Dan Lewis, Chair Elect	Y	Susan Richter	Y
Erin Rusmi, Secretary	Y		
Staff	Attending (Y/N)	Staff	Attending
Rev. Adam Robersmith	Y	Andrew Zallar, Congregational Administrator:	Y

Guests Present: Rev. Rudra Dundzila, Sue Dunmore, Jill Althage, and Kate Friedlob

Meeting Kick-off

- Chair's Welcome
- Shared recitation of the covenant
- Check-in led by Tom
- Dan motioned to approve minutes from August meeting. Dana seconded. The motion carried with one abstention.
- Review agenda

Board Member Notes

- Date for Board Retreat: Sept. 24 , 9am-3pm *Holy Conversations* book, joined by Nominating and Committee on Ministry from noon to 3, lunch provided by Adam
- Important Dates: Fall Fest – Saturday October 22, Fall Welcome Luncheon Sunday Sept 25
Involvement Fair- October 2

Guest Presentations:

1. **Rudra Dundzila, Community Minister**
- **Kenos, Romania Partner Church Visit** – Rudra provided a written report
 - Rudra brought presents from Kenos church to 2U
 - People of Kenos very warm, welcoming, and hospitable, they want to maintain relationship with 2U – brainstormed ideas include: communicate major events through newsletters at both 2U and Kenos church, send greeting cards, Kenos invited 2U to visit for confirmation service next year in June, young adults invite 2U young adults to visit
 - Rudra brought reading glasses - many people need them but can't afford them – and flash drives, which are also expensive in local economy
 - 2 major construction projects – church roof needs to be fixed, is half done and needs to raise money for the second half, and the religious education building which was torn down due to safety concerns (they would like to rebuild for religious education classes and guest house)
 - Rudra proposes we do a plate sharing to raise money for these construction projects, focusing efforts on the roof
 - Rudra also suggest we recruit new members for the partner church committee
- **Rudra's Status**



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- Rudra applied to be Community Minister with People's Church in addition to 2U to get experience in United Church of Christ (UCC) church (People's Church is both UU and UCC)
- Associate Pastor for Community
- Exploring becoming a dual membership minister in UU and UCC
- Retiring from Truman College in 2 years to find ministry in greater Chicago metro area to care for mother with dementia, dual membership will help find local ministry
- Rudra will maintain role at 2U and be at People's Church two Sunday a month, will continue role at Great Lakes Naval Ministry

2. Leadership Development & Nominating – Kate Friedlob, Sue Dunmore & Jill Althage:

Direction of training for this church year

- One on one conversations, as Scott Aaseng suggested for Social Justice Committee, find out why people are coming here, what they're looking for, and how we can provide that
- Make a chart for people's interests, based on survey to be rolled out this fall (October/November, before holidays)
- Conduct a lay led service by the Leadership Development and Nominating Committee members
- Recruit nominees to 2U leadership positions
 - Nominating Committee members shared list of nominees and term timelines, with input from the board
- Trainings with theme of community building

Staff Reports Review and Discussion (15 minutes) – Rev Robersmith & Andrew

- Minister's Report
 - Adam highlighted schedule for board retreat
 - Adam was approached by a former UU minister, current strategic planner who would like to do pro-bono work for 2U, including workshops on marketing and fundraising, willing to work with team of 6 from 2U
 - Scott Aaseng preaching on October 16 and follow up workshop and conversation Sunday, October 30
- Congregational Administrator's Report
 - Breeze Software Highlights – planning rollout in Anvil tomorrow, sending contributions through new system soon
 - Andrew created space sharing report listing and organizing all the groups that have been meeting at 2U, new groups include recovery group in the loft on Sunday afternoons and multi-sex women-centric LGBTQ Muslim afternoon prayer group
 - Many people find 2U by being guests at events hosted here
 - Marketing and Fundraising meeting and planning Fall Fest, Andrew has been working on online ticket sales platform (launch date next Sunday during potluck luncheon), working on ticket and auction sales and reducing administrative overload and consolidating into one system to manage; recruiting volunteers; finalizing ticket and poster design

Congregational Health / Activities

- Council Report, Mary-Helen
 - Membership Committee has orientation sessions planned for this year
 - Dan Lewis doing lay led service on Radical Hospitality November 6
 - Bonnie Ewald replacing Nanna during the time she needs a replacement as Pastoral Care chair



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- Involvement Fair on October 2 after worship, only coffee at coffee hour and snacks at the committee tables – committee chairs responsible for enticing signups (Mary-Helen gave suggestions on giving guidelines for skills and time needed, etc)
- Social Justice Committee – what should we do about this committee for Involvement Fair? Adam suggested we include Scott's workshop on the 30th and talk about Beloved Conversations course starting in the winter
- Involvement Fair will take place in the Palmer Room
- Social Justice - Rev Aaseng consulting role underway – Rev Adam
- Fall Fest Update – Susan Z
 - Spooktacular Fun-Raiser
 - PR done thanks to Mary-Helen's connection
 - Ticket sales start on the 25th
 - Darrin will secure a DJ
 - Soliciting auction items
 - Forms are ready

Finance Review and Discussion

- Treasurer's Report – Dana
 - Pledge income looking good, off to a good start
 - Space sharing generates huge income, much better than we anticipated
 - Spooktacular coming up
 - Large increase (doubled) in estimated cost of AC units, due to need to also replace heat in order to replace AC

Old business

- **Safe Congregations Team Recommendation – Rev Adam**
 - The board terminated the membership of a 2U member based on the recommendation of the Safe Congregations Team and including the recommendations of the Safe Congregations Team per reinstatement.

Building HVAC Update - Tom

- AC + Furnaces – original quote from Lew was \$8,000; Steve Hier is a building inspector and pointed out that we need to link up with furnace and this would cost \$16,000 to replace both at the same time
- Backyard Prep Work – recommend slope backyard to eliminate leakage from snow to basement, working on getting quote
- Suggestions for funding: Fund a Need, or more brainstorming by Finance Committee
- Tom suggests we move forward in the interest of comfort and rental income and figure out how to finance it.

New business

- Proposed UUA By-law change re gender neutral and inclusive language – Rev Adam
 - All board members are in favor of this

Adjourn

- Erin motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:12pm. Dana seconded. The motion carried unanimously.