

Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation
Board Meeting Minutes - August 7, 2007
First Draft – Not Approved

Present

Mike Haynes, President
Gwen Childs, Vice-President
Carol Floyd, Secretary
Martin Woulfe, Minister
Delinda Chapman
Henry Farrington
Scott Wade

Absent

Ceceilia Haasis
Bill McCall
Carley Mattimore

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm

Check-in. Attendees to the Board meeting shared personal experiences and milestones over the past month.

Inspirational reading: Carol Floyd read excerpts from Jack Kornfield **A Path with Heart**--a portion relating to Wakefully Making Mistakes Along the Way

The Minutes for the July 10 Board meeting were approved.

Minister's Report: Martin's report summarized his activities since the last Board meeting.

Committee Reports: Brief Committee Reports were provided for Finance, Religious Education, Fellowship, and Facilities

Committee Fair: September 23 was identified as the likely day for a Potluck and Committee Fair which would include providing information about the various committees and recruiting new committee members.

Fundraising for the Piano and for the Playground

The Board at its July meeting had requested Finance Committee recommendations on handling fundraising details. Henry Farrington presented the following guidelines which the Finance Committee recommended for Board consideration on handling the two fund raising initiatives. These recommendations are:

- Pledge drives should be conducted for each project. The pledge drives should be for a period not to exceed 12 months.
- The Playground Pledge drive should make it clear to the donors that there will be a dollar-to-dollar matching up to \$10,000.00 and in the event that the total goal is not reached at the end of the pledge drive, the amount collected from these pledges will be used for the playground.

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- The Accountant should establish line items set asides of \$10,000.00 each (from the Ruth Heckathorn memorial gifts) for the Playground Fund and the Piano Fund
- The Piano Pledge drive will also be a dollar-to-dollar matching up to \$10,000.00. Pledges and other donations will need to be tracked so that donors will not deduct donations (for Tax purposes) until the goal is reached or a refund or pledge cancellation is in order.
- Appropriate Memorial Plaques should be considered for each project.

It was explained that the playground and the piano were treated differently because the piano was all or nothing whereas the playground had sub-elements that could be purchased even if fundraising did not reach the total desired.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adopt these guidelines with the additional specification that Piano Pledge Drive should initially be pledges only with payment to be requested only when it was clear the goal would be reached.

The specification added to the piano guidelines was intended to ease both individual personal planning and church recordkeeping especially meeting our responsibilities for tax reporting on charitable giving.

Treasurer position: Jeffrey Bennett has tendered his resignation as Treasurer for personal reasons. The Board regretfully accepts his resignation and thanks him for his service. The past treasurer, Tina Layer, is assisting the Board President until the Board appoints a new Treasurer

Updating computer: A motion, was made, seconded, and approved that up to \$200 be allocated to upgrade the RAM and videocard in the computer in the church office.

Appointment of Office Manager: The search process for a half time office manager started with resumes and continued with interviews and outside testing of office and computer skills for finalists. The Board approved the appointment of Cheryl Wycoff to that position effective as soon as feasible

Software addition: A preliminary discussion was conducted about what church management software program should be purchased in terms of initial purchase price, annual fee, and advantages and disadvantages of various features. Additional inquiries are being made with middle sized UU churches including those in Central Illinois about how things have worked in actual practice. A potential donor of the software also will be contacted.

Board goals for this church year: Delinda was thanked for the notes she had made from the Board planning session held on July 28. It was agreed that these would be discussed further at the next meeting with the intention of developing a set of Board goals for the year that ends June 30, 2008.

There was a short discussion of various activities. It was suggested that attention be given to recruiting a new Membership Chair in the very near future and that greeting before the service be made more systematic. Also, there was some discussion of the concept of developing a signature program which was deemed probably not feasible for a congregation our size and with our current developmental status and other priorities.

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It was moved, seconded and approved that a Marina V. concert be scheduled for December 21, that an intermission be required, and that the same revenue sharing arrangement as was used last year be continued.

The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday September 4, 2007 at 7:00 pm. An inspirational reading will be provided by Scott Wade and snacks will be provided by Delinda Chapman.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 pm.