

Meeting Minutes  
 Board of Trustees Meeting, Friends of Unity  
 Monday, August 26, 2024 in Zoom  
 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Vision:

Transforming Lives Through Divine Love

Mission:

Together, We: Nurture Spiritual Awakening, Cultivate Loving Community,  
 Serve Generously.

Collective Intention for Our 14th Year:

We are Practicing Collective Flourishing.

Attendees:

Minister	Rev. Linda Dominik	X	Keeper of the Flame	Michelle Hayes	X
President	Nancy Langeneckert	X	Secretary	John Boulahanis	X
Vice President	Norma Simons	X	Guest	Gail Parker	X
Treasurer	John Fanta	X			

Call to Order – Nancy 5:05 p.m.

Opening prayer: Nancy

1. Minister’s Report

a. New Members class

- i. New members class: tabled. Offer a Unity Refresher course in the future.
- ii. Honor Mickey and Vic for service on 9/8.
- iii. Picnic on the Patio will be on 9/15.

b. Fall Intentional Living Series update

- i. Will be using the Unity booklet “Today I AM”
- ii. How to promote: Rev. Linda to review historical procedures with Gail, Admin.
- iii. Introduce FILS 10/6 ends by 11/24 Thanksgiving service

2. Old Business

- a. Board Transition updates to Community (do monthly); plan for September 15<sup>th</sup> by Nancy. Suggested topic: How will we know when it’s time to begin looking for our new minister? Rev. Linda shared a concept for minister recruitment. The essential

questions is: What kind of qualities do we want in a minister? Strong pastoral or pulpit dispositions? Old or new school Unity? What salary will be offered? Full- or part-time? Board to develop a picture, present to the congregation, and asking similar questions that the Board utilized. The picture is submitted in the required packet to UWM. It will be important for continuity throughout the holidays.

- i. Rev. Linda suggested the Board topic: we are carrying on as a congregation. Goal: Maintaining the loving connection of the community. We work with Principle as a congregation. How well are we meeting our intentions and in what way? Finding a spiritual leader is important not urgent.
  - ii. John to offer a financial report at the Annual Meeting. No financial report needed earlier.
- b. Annual membership renewal and directory update
- i. Received reaffirmation from approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  of members
  - ii. Directory draft has been shared on two Sundays. Will be published in two weeks.
- c. Report from succession planning meeting w/Gail/Rev. Linda & Nancy on August 4<sup>th</sup>. Gail exploring options for transitioning bookkeeper to new bookkeeping company or individual.
- d. Board approved use of invitation to Annual Meeting letter Gail wrote.
- e. Intentional Giving - \$153. Suggested recipient: Friends In Deed (1196 Ecorse Rd, Ypsilanti, MI 48198) For next month: Wigs for Kids. The Board Approved.
- i. Does the board want to invite the congregation to give ideas for the monthly discretionary tithe inviting ideas for one month. Suggestions utilized for the whole year. In alignment with the vision: transforming lives through Divine Love. Revisit this idea. Make a plan for implementation: who to announce? How to receive

ideas? Criteria? June minutes say “Michelle to come up with” (??) TABLED

- f. Volunteer Appreciation Sunday: Plan a no-cost light lunch again. Recognize folks by category; get script to Rev. Linda. Date: October 20<sup>th</sup>
  - g. Remembrance ceremony will be 11/10 (healing circle Sunday)
  - h. UWM Membership Model update. We do not have to change our name as a member. Must have a minister in good standing and follow the UWM Bylaws.
2. New Business:
- a. Discuss plan for handling that personal requests from a member of the congregation be announced on Sunday morning
    - i. Support spiritually. No benevolence fund to provide financial or material goods. May have a list of resources.
    - ii. Board approval for to seek a 6<sup>th</sup> Board member which signifies continuity/maintaining the FoU protocols. Nancy and Michelle’s terms are ending in 2025. Nancy will not be eligible to seek re-ellection. John B. wants to become the Member At Large. The Nominating Team: Rev. Linda, Mickey, Jane, and Michelle to look for an additional member of the Board. Reviewed the Bylaws. Process outline prepared by Phil Ernzen sent to the Board.
    - iii. Discussed issue of meeting the quorum on October 28<sup>th</sup>. Need four members.
    - iv. Annual Meeting is October 13<sup>th</sup>.
  - 3. Financial report – John Fanta submitted the written report. Positive bottomline.
  - 4. Administrator’s Report received.
  - 5. Review and Approve Minutes, including dates of next Board meetings
- \*\*Looking ahead: Agenda for Annual Meeting**

Minutes approved by the Board.

Closing prayer: John Fanta

Meeting adjourned 7:05 p.m.

## Board Meeting Calendar

Regular Board meetings are on Mondays at 5 PM on Zoom

9. September 30

Sunday, Oct. 13 – Annual Meeting

10. October 28

11. November 25

12. December 16

13. January

14. February