

[Gavel]

11 a.m. Eric Huffer – Calls Meeting to order - 2016 Annual Business Meeting of the MidAmerica Region of our Unitarian Universalist Association.

11:03 a.m. - Opening words, which describe the purpose of the MidAmerica Region, and which are printed in the middle of page 2 of your delegate packet.

"The Purpose of the MidAmerica Region is ... to support, enrich, and extend Unitarian Universalism in the defined geographic area. The Region shall work in collaboration with the Unitarian Universalist Association."

Eric Huffer lights the chalice during the opening words.]

11:05 a.m. Eric Huffer -

Third time we have gathered to conduct business as a region,

Second time we have all been in one place. MidAmerica Region is made up of 186 UUA affiliated congregations spread across 13 states: from North Dakota to Kentucky, Michigan to Kansas..

We have a certified adult membership of just over 29,000, and around 10,000 children in our congregations. There are 10 congregations in the Region with over 500 members, making up more than a quarter of our membership. On the other end of the spectrum, there are 128 congregations (nearly 70%) that have fewer than 150 members.

That's a lot of real estate, and a wide range of types of congregations. Yet, here we are, each with our own gifts and challenges, working together to move Unitarian Universalism forward. Thank you again for being here, and for all that you do in this work as well.

Kyrie Bock, MidAmerica Region Secretary presented credentials report, to determine whether we have achieved a quorum for this meeting.

As you can see, our Bylaws define a quorum as consisting of delegates from at least 25 congregations located in at least five states.

Kyrie: I can report that there are 181 delegates present, representing 79 congregations from all 13 states. I affirm that we have a quorum present for the conduct of this business meeting.

11:10 a.m. Approval of the rules of procedure for this meeting, Tom Sommerfeld, Mid America Board Member made the appropriate motion.

Tom - _As recommended by the MidAmerica Region Board of Trustees, I move adoption of the Rules of Procedure as presented on pages 2-4 of the full delegate packet.

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David Lauth moved that adopt the rules and procedures. David Martin.
Eric called for discussion.

Called for vote. Vote was unanimous, rules and procedures have been adopted, no one opposed.

11:20 a.m. I invite Brian Bach, representing the MidAmerica Region Nominating Committee, to come forward and present the Nominating Committee's report.

Brian reports

As our Bylaws include other options for nomination, and as no other nominees have exercised those options, I invite a motion to elect the slate of nominees as presented by the Nominating Committee.

Moved by Joan Pederson, 1st U Chicago; thank you. Seconded by Holly Peterson, 1st U Minneapolis. 1 opposed, unanimous vote, motion carries, the slate of nominees presented by the Nominating Committee has been elected. Thank you.

I would like to invite Rev. Mary Katherine Morn, of our UUA's Stewardship and Development Office, to come forward and share a brief expression of appreciation.

11:30 a.m. Rev. Mary Katherine Morn, UUA's Stewardship and Development Office's presentation

11:45 a.m. Reverend Bill Sasso, chair of the Learning Network Task Force, shared a report on the progress of the task force's work on the Learning Network.

12:00 p.m. Nic Cable, from the UU Church of Greater Lansing, to presented a business item that has been submitted by Congregational Action - Resolution on Muslim Solidarity

On behalf of the Southeast Michigan UUMA Cluster, and the ten endorsing congregations, he moved adoption of the MidAmerica Regional Assembly Resolution on Muslim Solidarity as presented on page 5 of the delegate packet.

Seconded by Lee Bannor @ Evanston.

Eric: In accordance with our rules of procedure, we discussed the motion. Discussion ensued, moderated by Eric.

Dee @ Wilmer, MN congregation, in the con-line. Lee Bannor in the pro-line. Jim Moyer in the pro-line (stated to be in relation and community w/ the Muslim Community). Kathleen Watson stood in the center of Pro and Con line.

Voted on the motion adopting the MidAmerica Regional Assembly Resolution on Muslim Solidarity.

3 opposed. The vote was passed. 2 abstentions.

Eric: The motion carried, MidAmerica Regional Assembly Resolution on Muslim Solidarity has been adopted.

Eric 12:15 p.m. Recognition and honoring of people completing their service to MidAmerica. Bill Elwood came forward with a presentation regarding one of those people, Nancy Heege.

Bill's comments, Harlan's video, announcement of scholarship fund

Eric's comments, presentation of small gift.

Two MidAmerica Board members complete their service this year. In June, our Treasurer, Tom Sommerfeld, and Trustee, Dave Martin, will finish their terms on our Board. Prior to his time on the MidAmerica Board, Dave Martin served on the Prairie Star District board as vice-president and was part of the team that worked on the transition to the MidAmerica Region, He also is the last member of the board who was part of that transition. Dave has been a tireless worker as a board member. I am extremely grateful for his willingness to join a work group, or volunteer to do some research during this time.

Tom Sommerfeld's steady presence and considered counsel will be sorely missed in our board meetings. We will miss his musical gifts even more. At our face-to-face board meetings, Tom could always be counted on to lift our attempts at singing a hymn into something approaching music.

In addition, both Tom and Dave have my gratitude because they were part of the first MidAmerica Region Board, and as such, have helped craft that body as we now know it. Thank you both for your service to the Region, and to Unitarian Universalism. Will you please join me in thanking them?

At our 2015 UUA General Assembly, the gathered delegates adopted an Action of Immediate Witness in Support of the Black Lives Matter movement. During last year's MidAmerica Regional Assembly, we recognized the efforts of the St. Louis area UU congregations in response to the events in Ferguson, MO. At this year's assembly, I want to recognize efforts of congregations across our region in relation to the 2015 Action of Immediate Witness – Support for the Black Lives Matter movement, and their work for racial justice. The following congregations have taken some action in the last year in support of Black Lives Matter.

Thomas Jefferson Unitarian Church, Louisville, KY

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First Unitarian Church, Louisville, KY
Unitarian Universalist Church of Lexington, KY
Heritage Universalist Unitarian Church, Cincinnati, OH
Miami Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Dayton, OH
Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Hendriks County, IN
Unitarian Universalist Church of Indianapolis, IN
UU Church of Tippecanoe County, IN
UU Church of West Lafayette, IN
First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit, MI
Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church, MI
Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church, Southfield, MI
All Souls Community Church Grand Rapids, MI
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Midland, MI
Marquette Unitarian Universalist Congregation, MI
Fox Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Appleton, WI
First Unitarian Society, Milwaukee, WI
United Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Waukesha, WI
Lake Country Unitarian, Hartland, WI
James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Madison, WI
First Unitarian Society, Madison, WI
The Unitarian Universalist Church, Rockford, IL
Unitarian Church of Evanston, IL
Beverly Unitarian Church, Chicago, IL
First Unitarian Church of Alton, IL
Eliot Unitarian Chapel, Kirkwood, MO
Emerson Unitarian Universalist Chapel, St. Louis, MO
First Unitarian Church of St. Louis, MO
All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church, Kansas City, MO

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Shawnee Mission Unitarian Universalist Church, Lenexa, Ks

First Unitarian Church, Des Moines, IA

Second Unitarian Church, Omaha, NE

Unity Church Unitarian, St. Paul, MN

First Universalist Church of Minneapolis, MN

First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis, MN

If a congregation has taken some action in relation to the Action of Immediate Witness in the last year, and was not included in this list, please let us know, so that we might raise up their efforts as well.

Will you please join me in celebrating the work that these congregations have done, and honoring their efforts toward racial justice?

12:25 p.m. Dave Martin, closing words.

12:27 p.m. Eric Huffer

Motion to adjourn this meeting. Holly Peterson. Second? Thomas Sommerfeld.

Unanimous, no opposed, no abstentions. The motion carries, meeting adjourned.