

MidAmerica Region Annual Business Meeting

June 26, 2021

Conducted remotely via Zoom

Approved August 3, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Board of Trustees President Tammy Lemmer at 11:14 AM ET.

There was an agenda review.

Tammy gave opening words from the Rev. Leslie Takahashi, chair of the UUA Commission on Institutional Change.

Tammy gave an introduction which provided an overview of the composition of the MidAmerica Region. She also identified and thanked current Board members and offered appreciation to Brian Bach and Rev Sarah C. Oglesby-Dunegan who left the Board this year.

Dorit Bergen, a Board member who acted as secretary for the meeting, reviewed the by-laws related to quorum. With 61 congregations and 12 states certified, quorum was established.

Dorit Bergen, First Unitarian Society of Madison WI moved and Rae Jane Aruja, Heritage Unitarian Universalist Church of Cincinnati, OH seconded a motion to adopt the Rules of Procedure. The motion passed (108 -0 )

Mel Priese, co-chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the committee's report. The two goals of the committee this past year were to adapt its work to the reality of the pandemic and to find more diverse nominees, especially with regard to race. A consultant was hired to provide the committee's members with formal training

regarding dismantling white supremacy culture. The committee made several changes in documents, identifying, revising or removing documents that might have hindered accessibility and moving their documents from Drop Box to Google Docs.

Mel also reported that there are still two open positions on the Nominating Committee. She then presented the slate of candidates for the Board of Trustees, the Nominating Committee and the Board of the Midwest Unitarian Universalist Conference (MUUC). Kay Slama of Unitarian Universalist Church of Willmar, MN moved the slate and Susan Salterberg of Unitarian Universalist Society of Coralville, IA seconded. The motion passed (108 yes, 3 abstain).

Mel concluded the Nominating Committee's report by identifying its goals for next year: to promote attendance at GA by donating part of its budget to support registration and to continue its work to find more diverse nominees.

David Pyle, MidAmerica Regional Lead, and Jessica York, Director of Congregational Life for the UUA, expressed their appreciation for the support congregations give via their contributions to the Annual Program Fund and for the work of volunteers at the regional and denominational level.

Tammy expressed the Region's thanks to all the volunteers who are concluding their service to the region. They are David Lauth, Brian Bach and the Rev. Sarah Oglesby-Dunegan from the Board of Trustees, Bob Lovell, Lansing MI and Kay Slama, Willmar MN from the Nominating Committee and Allan Lindrup, Park Forest IL and Michael May, First Unitarian Society, Madison WI from the MUCC Board. David Lauth, outgoing Board President, was recognized for his outstanding service.

Tammy expressed the Region's appreciation to individuals who have contributed to the Friends of MidAmerica Fund which supplements the

Annual Program Fund in supporting staff and programs in the Region. Tammy also thanked Jessica York, David Pyle and the entire Region staff for all their hard work. She noted that MidAmerica has the smallest staff of any of the regions, even though it is not the smallest region either by geography or population.

Tammy read closing words by the Rev. Jim McGoff.

Dorit Bergen of First Unitarian Society of Madison, WI moved and Stacy Craig of Chequamegon UU Fellowship, Ashland WI seconded adjournment. Motion passed 103-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 11:58 AM ET.

Respectfully submitted by Dorit Bergen