

The MidAmerica Region of the Unitarian Universalist Association

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes – November 1, 2022

Approved December 6, 2022

Welcome/Check-in

In Attendance – Autumn Mahoney, Dorit Bergen, David Jackoway, Hans Kelson, Rae Jane Araujo, David Pyle, Patty Notch, McKenna Revel, Sharon Dittmar, Jim Moir. *Absent*: none.

Call to Order – Patty calls the meeting to order at 7:33pm Eastern and shares opening words.

Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes – Dorit moves to accept minutes as presented; Hans seconds. Approved unanimously.

Regional Lead Report – David Pyle commented on submitted written report. The hiring process for the two new positions is underway but going slower than initially hoped.

Nominating Committee Appointments – Gretchen discovered that there are two nominating committee members who were not properly elected at the last business meeting due to a miscommunication. The terms for Mel P. and John L. expired in 2022, but they are now serving de facto until 2024 without having been elected.

David Jackoway asks if Board can formally fill those vacant positions until the end of the term in 2024, or just until the next election in 2023. Consensus was that appointments would only be until the next election.

David Jackoway proposes communicating with the nominating committee on our intention to vote to at the next board meeting to officially fill those positions until the next election. Rae Jane says we should also inform nominating committee so the two appointed individuals can be placed on the slate for next year's election.

Gretchen says that there needs to be improved and more formal communication between the nominating committee and region staff, to include a single final report rather than relying solely on a chain of emails.

Patty will reach out to Helen from the nominating committee to discuss.

Retreat Preparation – The plan for the time spent with UUA leadership at the retreat is to create a relational covenant, share and discuss the three-way covenant review and relational diagram created by the board committee, and begin discussion of policy for the organizational relationship between the MidAmerica Region and the UUA. David P. shared a draft framework for a covenant that could be used as a starting point for discussion.

Discussed how this policy work is necessary to define existing relationship prior to any further consideration of whether financial integration with the UUA would be in the Region's best interest in the future. In discussions with Carey, it appears that this policy will need to be adopted by the MidAmerica Board and the UUA Board. A goal of the retreat is to set a plan for how the MidAmerica Board and the UUA leadership will collaborate to develop the policy together. Actual policy development will not happen at the retreat, but will happen across future meetings with more people involved.

Dorit and Hans suggest including an agenda item to specifically discuss potential financial integration.

Sharon will prepare a relationship building exercise to start the Saturday session. David P. and McKenna will lead social time on Friday.

We are planning to attend Sunday service at All Peoples congregation and will let them know of our plan to visit.

Patty will create and send out a draft retreat agenda.

Next Meeting – Next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 6th at 7:30pm Eastern / 6:30pm Central.

Adjournment – Patty shares closing words. Meeting adjourned at 8:53pm Eastern.

Respectfully Submitted,

Autumn Mahoney

Secretary to the Board of Trustees