

The MidAmerica Region of the Unitarian Universalist Association

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes – January 3, 2023

Approved February 7, 2023

Welcome/Check-in

In Attendance – Autumn Mahoney, McKenna Revel, Dorit Bergen, David Jackoway, Rae Jane Araujo, David Pyle, Patty Notch, Jim Moir, Sharon Dittmar. *Absent:* Hans Kelson.

Call to Order – Patty calls the meeting to order at 7:30pm Eastern and shares opening words.

Approval of Last Meeting’s Minutes – Dorit moves to accept minutes as presented; Rae Jane seconds. Approved unanimously.

Regional Lead Report – David Pyle commented on submitted written report. Board discussed inviting Kathy Burek and one of the Regional Leads from a region that is financially integrated with the UUA to discuss experiences at an upcoming board meeting. David Pyle says that February meeting is usually busy with the introduction of the draft budget, but that is based on the typical April date of the annual meeting. The February meeting could combine a brief budget presentation and a meeting with Kathy, to be followed with a more detailed budget discussion and potential budget approval in March, and a meeting with a regional lead later in the spring.

Policy Subcommittees

Covenant with UUA — (Autumn, McKenna, and Sharon). Rae Jane moves to create subcommittee to draft Covenant of Relationship between the UUA and the MidAmerica Region, to have draft version ready for review at March board meeting to be able to present to the UUA for review in April. Dorit seconds. Approved unanimously.

Policy Framework for Relationship Between MidAmerica Region and UUA — (David Jackoway, Dorit, David Pyle). David Jackoway moves to create subcommittee to draft a Policy Framework for the Relationship Between the MidAmerica Region and the UUA, to have draft version ready for review at April board meeting and finalized in May. The timeframe is to keep the policy work within the current board term and to have it done before June to be able to present at the annual business meeting. Autumn seconds. Approved unanimously.

Policy Framework for Relationship Between MidAmerica Region and Camp Unistar — (Dorit, Hans, David Pyle). Discussed concerns about existing relationship due to youth safety policies. David Pyle met with VP of Camp Unistar Foundation, who indicated a desire to maintain governance relationship with the Region. The Region’s official relationship is with the Camp Unistar Foundation, not the Camp Unistar management. The Foundation seems to have a stronger UU identity than the management side. The Foundation now knows that we are planning to open subcommittee. Dorit moves to create subcommittee to draft a Policy Framework for the Relationship Between the MidAmerica Region and the Camp Unistar Foundation, to have a draft version ready for review at the September board meeting; to require Camp Unistar to adopt the UUA youth safety guidelines as a prerequisite for a continued relationship; and to ask Camp Unistar to submit by the April meeting a plan for adopting said youth safety guidelines. Jim seconds. Approved unanimously. David Pyle suggests board should meet with the Camp Unistar board members that were appointed by the Region and talk with them about bringing them into an accountability relationship with the Region.

Policy Framework for Relationship between MidAmerica Region, MUUC, MUUF — (Rae Jane, Patty, David Pyle). Rae Jane moves to create subcommittee to draft a Policy Framework for the Relationship Between the MidAmerica Region, the Midwest Unitarian Universalist Conference, and the Midwest Unitarian Universalist Foundation, to have draft version ready for review at April board meeting. McKenna seconds. Approved unanimously. Discussed meeting with their officers to discuss how to define this as a policy relationship, likely a joint policy.

Spring Board Retreat — The 2023 Business Meeting is being held as a standalone event. Since there is no Regional Assembly planned in conjunction with the business meeting this year, there is money in the budget available for a second board retreat. Discussed whether such a retreat would be helpful. Consensus was that a full board retreat is not necessary at this time, but it would be helpful to empower and fund subcommittees to plan meetings in person if helpful for the upcoming policy work. Final decision will be made at February meeting.

There will be some time available for board members to meet up at General Assembly, for those who attend. If there is no spring retreat, there could be more money available to support board members attending GA.

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

Adjournment – Patty shares closing words. Meeting adjourned at 8:54pm Eastern.

Respectfully Submitted,

Autumn Mahoney

Secretary to the Board of Trustees