

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF MIDLAND
3301 NEELY AVENUE MIDLAND, TEXAS**

MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DATE: September 13, 2020

**PRESIDENT: MAUREENA BENAVIDES - PRESIDENT ELECT: JANINE DECKARD -
TREASURER: ALEX FIELDS - SECRETARY: APRIL GRAHAM - AT LARGE: DAVID
ALLEN, LISA JEBSEN, KAYLEIGH KIRK
REVEREND JULIE LOMBARD, EX-OFFICIO**

CALL TO ORDER at 12:30pm **CERTIFY QUORUM** – 6 board members present, + Julie
(Kayleigh absent)

OPEN FORUM FOR CONGREGATION OR INVITED GUESTS – no guests present

CONFIRM ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS (consent agenda) done online/email: David
motions to accept the consent agenda, Maureena seconds, all are in favor.

* **MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING** (April will start re-sending minutes the
Wednesday before each meeting)

* **MINISTER’S REPORT**

* **TREASURER’S REPORT**

* **EDUCATION REPORT**

OLD BUSINESS:

STEWARDSHIP- Alex is putting in the treasurer’s note for thank you notes and will send them
by this weekend.

PPP FORGIVENESS STATUS UPDATE/DATE – Once Emily gets the documents from Alex
and Jessica, she will apply for forgiveness. There is no rush.

SIGN UP FOR BOARD WELCOME –

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0548afae2babff2-uucom> Alex will do Sept. 27 and/or Oct.
25.

CREATING A WELCOMING CONGREGATION- JANINE - We need to write a tailor-
made statement for our Bylaws, otherwise we are good because of having Out in West Texas,
Sex Ed, etc.

*Maureena says that we need to put gender identity and expression in our welcoming statement.
The Bylaws committee will work with Janine and Maureena and Julie to craft a statement.

*For the Sex Ed, Maureena is certified to do 9-12, but hasn't done it in years. We need another teacher trained. We should work with RE to figure out how to do this and what our needs are.

BYLAWS REVISION PRESENTATION – DAVID / APRIL – We will set up a meeting with the committee and the Welcoming Congregation group this month.

RIGHT RELATIONS POLICY AND ZOOM – JANINE – Janine feels that the policy and Zoom statement are great as is.

NEW ACTION ITEMS BEFORE THE BOARD:

BUILDING USE AND COVID RUBRIC – MAUREENA – Maureena suggests that we go with 5% positivity rate as our metric for reopening. Maureena motions that we follow these guidelines: when there is a 5% positivity rate or more, we do not reopen the building (phase 3). When we hit less than 5%, we can reopen the building (phase 3). David seconds. None opposed, Janine abstains.

Maureena moves that we charge the COVID care team with reviewing the outdoor use policy (phase 2) and present to us. April seconds. All are in favor.

MINISTER DISCRETIONARY FUND AND MOVING EXPENSES – Julie asked Alex to put the fund in the budget so that it is visible to the board. It would still be private who is benefitting.

*Currently, the fund is at about \$300. Julie suggests fundraising for it, maybe doing a Christmas appeal, or transferring funds. Julie's moving expenses were a lot less than the allotted \$15,000, so there is some money coming from that that we could transfer to other things. Maureena suggests moving about \$3500 to the fund.

*Alex notes that the previous board voted to give the Treasurer ability to see who receives money from the fund for checks and balances, etc.

*Janine asks if 501c3 rules mean we have to report these kinds of things? We are under UUA, which has 501c3...

*David motions that we put the (currently informal) policy of sharing the recipients of the Minister's Discretionary Fund with the Treasurer into our formal policies. Maureena seconds; no opposed; no abstentions. Minister, Treasurer, Jessica, and any others interested will craft that policy. **(Note from April after the meeting – this is already a policy on the website: http://www.uumidland.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Policy_MinistersDiscretionaryFund_Final2020.docx)**

*David points out that having the minister pay for things and get reimbursed might be a bad idea because there is no paper trail. Julie points out that the process to cut checks for people often

takes longer, and it is difficult to get them help when they need it if we hamstring the process. Tabling this for now.

GUIDESTAR ACCOUNT FOR AMAZON SMILE AND TAX EXEMPT REQUESTS –
David moves we stop Amazon smile; Lisa seconds; all are in favor. It is too much work for Jessica to reapply and we get very little benefit.

BOARD THANK YOU FOR THE MONTH OF SEPT. – Reverend Julie and the Board of Directors would like to thank the following people for their outstanding efforts this month:

Jessica Stewart – for her amazing behind-the-scenes work in leading the Zoom upgrade.

David Allen – for training more folks to become slide projectionists.

Shanda Unger – for stepping up to lead our group of hard workers as Worship Chair; and thanks to Lisa Jebson for making this a reality.

Covid Care Team – Rev. Julie, Barbara Handley, Jessica Stewart, and David Allen were all willing to jump right in to pull together policy recommendations for the Board. We continue to be grateful for monthly updates & for your investigations into what other churches are doing.

Janine Deckard – for reviewing the Right Relations Policy with the minister to apply it to how we use Zoom at church.

We can ask Jessica to include the list in the newsletter. Lisa motions that monthly board thank-yous be included in our minutes, which will be sent to Jessica and included in the newsletter. Janine seconds; all are in favor.

SHARE THE PLATE RECIPIENT FOR OCT, NOV, DEC. - Share the plate remaining votes: Midland Rape Crisis Center, Meals on Wheels, TXUJM, PFLAG – Maureena moves PFLAG for October, Meals on Wheels for November, Minister's Discretionary for December. All are in favor.

FALL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING / ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE & BOARD RETREAT –

- Maureena suggests we use our training funds to purchase the Dan Hotchkiss book on ministry and organization for the board retreat.
- Normally we would have done a July board retreat to come up with a strategic plan; then August /Sept we would review and revise the strategic plan. COVID interrupted this, so we are a bit behind this year.
- Oct 10th - board retreat for 90 min, 9:00-10:30; we will have a second 90 min session another time (TBD during the Oct 10 meeting)

- Alex motions that we have fall congregational meeting on Nov. 15. All are in favor. April will need to send out the invitations to the congregation by Nov. 1.

SCHEDULE FOLLOWING MEETINGS (2ND SUNDAYS)

PERSONAL CHECKOUT

PROCESS OBSERVER REVIEW- Janine

CLOSING WORDS AND ADJOURN

MEETING END TIME: 2:12pm

Next Board meeting date(s): Oct. 11, 12:30pm

Respectfully submitted by April Graham, Secretary