

**HUUC Board of Trustees  
Wednesday, August 10<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Board Meeting Minutes**

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Present: Rebecca St. Clair, President; Jeff Ochsner, Vice-president; Tim Hamlin, Secretary; Peggy Humphreys, John Wilkinson, Poppy Hernandez

Absent: Bruce Froelich

**1. Chalice lighting / Introductions**

**1. Acceptance of July 2016 Minutes:**

**Motion by Peggy with second by Poppy to approve minutes; Approved.**

**1. Guest Presentation; None**

**1. President's Report by Rebecca St. Clair**

1. Rebecca will send Tim a brief statement describing the need for a 'buyer' as discussed and approved in the July board meeting. Tim will forward the message to the congregation. The message will include the needs of child care assistance, as well.

2.

**3. Committee Reports:**

a) Bookkeeper/Treasurer reports:

Written bookkeeper report by Deborah Margules submitted in writing. Bruce Froelich, Treasurer submitted written report by email prior to meeting. Kurt Troutman might take over the Treasurer's duties. Rebecca states that changes may be coming in the way finance reports are submitted to the board. This in keeping with a desire to streamline board meetings and reporting by committees.

a) Music and Worship (by Rebecca St. Claire)

No current problems. Things are running well.

a) Caring Committee (no report)

a) Social Action (off for the Summer)

a) Space and Grace/Building and Grounds; verbal report only by John Wilkinson:

John reports the chair lift in the main entrance is, again, broken. He feels

that the appliance is very old and may not be worth fixing. He believes there may be some, not too expensive, alternatives. He will check into this. He will take this issue to the next Space and Grace meeting.

a) Religious Education by Tim Hamlin; written report provided. No verbal report.

a) General Discussion regarding committee reporting:

Following committee reports there was a general discussion regarding streamlining of reporting and possible changes in the board's relationship with committees (perhaps it is more accurate to refer to 'essential functions' rather than 'committees' in this context). The idea of the board attempting to stay on top of all committees/essential functions in terms of being aware of where support might be needed was brought up (even if the board lacks resources to fix problems at any given time). Also, the idea that the board might work from some kind of master list of essential functions as a starting point to deciding as a board what functions are, truly, essential. Also, that the board could communicate with specific committees its desires regarding minimal responsibilities of committees. Reports might be more along the lines of check lists rather than long narrative reports.

Tim was asked to send an old list of 'essential functions' to the board members as a starting point for further discussions.

## **1. Old Business:**

a) Black Lives Matter:

There was general discussion regarding what we might do to be more engaged. Tim summarized a few thoughts he shared with Gwen Williams during our attendance at the General Assembly, which gave great emphasis to the BLM cause. Not acting unilaterally, respecting that we can offer to help but what we might do needs to be led by what Black people ask us to do rather than by what we think might be a good idea. Also, that we need to do some 'soul searching within the congregation as to what we actually can commit to and do well since we could, easily, over commit.

The idea of getting Black Lives Matter buttons to wear was proposed and there was a consensus that this would be a good idea. Along with BLM buttons we could get some Gender orientation messages and also, some that ID us as UU's. Perhaps there are buttons via the UUA. Tim offered to check this out.

**A motion was made by John Wilkinson and seconded by Jeff Ochsner to approve \$150 for the purchase of gender neutrality and Black Lives Matter buttons with a UU reference.**

- a) Possible use of building request by New GLBTQ group; Rebecca reports the group does not need the use of our building.

1.

2. **New Business:**

- a) Rebecca reports that a family named Clack (sp?) is requesting the use of the building 8-16 (Tuesday). They are older, former members.

**This was approved by vote of the board.**

- a) Fred Wooden's next visit will be in October. We are asked to think about; Where we are going; How we will get there and in terms of what is measurable for further discussion at the next board meeting.

- a) John Wilkinson made request for use of building on September 18<sup>th</sup> for a '30 Days of Peace' event. This is, already, on the church calendar. A building use request form needs to be completed. John will do this.

b)

- c) **A motion was made by Jeff Ochsner and seconded by Peggy Humphreys to approve this building use request; motion approved.**

- a) Rebecca had a brief conversation with Colleen Squires minister of All Souls UU church in Grand Rapids. She made suggestions about helping the congregation and Rebecca will be meeting with her to see about a partnership with her.

b)

1. **Adjournment:**

**Motion to adjourn by Tim Hamlin, second by Peggy Humphreys; approved at 8:15 p. m.**

**1. Dates:** Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 7:00 p. m.

September Newsletter deadline: **by 5PM Wednesday, August 24<sup>th</sup>.**

Respectfully submitted:

Tim Hamlin  
Board Secretary