



MEETING NOTES

August 13, 2018 – Board Meeting

First Universalist Church

97 Main Street

Yarmouth, Maine 04096

Light the Chalice; Open the meeting

Establish Quorum

Present: Joanna Landsman, Joe Dreher, Jamie Brookes, Frieda Gillespie, Annie Cook, Sarah W, Marge Titcomb, Lily O'Brien, Meghan Nathanson

Not present: Jen Civiello

Reading: Joanna

Introductions: Rev. Frieda & Board

- Board Members: our questions of Rev. Frieda
- Looking forward to connections, hope, community, open, brave and kind, excited, getting political.
- Expectations: be realistic – it won't all happen at once. Adventure. Who we are. Voting. Educate against apathy.
- Governance and Ministry by Dan Hotchkiss. Marge: we can use our existing structure and modify and adapt. Affirms what we have already done. Frieda: be a Learning Board, read and discuss sections.
- Rev. Frieda: expectations, questions of us: want to be in an active congregation, where people are thinking about governance and ministry. Don't have high expectations of radical change. Celebrating what we have done, maybe in areas we haven't appreciated. What I need from the Board is a willingness to be partners. Be a cheerleading force.
- Approach to understanding timeline – dig things up. Conflicts that were never out in the open. Opportunity to heal emotions. To bring them out in a safe place, way. What is holding us back and how do you feel about it?
- Background: Greenville NC church, Humanist. Roswell GA, started by a UU minister who didn't want to let go. Settled ministry in Danvers MA. Since then an interim. Omaha NE. Berlin MA Federated church UCC and UU. Youth programming. Receiving our care, and caring about the world.
- Two years: brief and yet endless!

Upcoming Plans & Events: Board Members please attend all you can!

- Vespers.



- Ingathering – Sept. 9. Will be “Welcoming, Here I am, this is what I’ll be doing with you for the next two years.” Frieda, Gwen, Sam decided to put the Sand Ceremony on the 16th. Instead of what amazing places did you go, it will be “What insights did you have this summer?” Experiences, perspectives. Discussion of Ritual and robing. Frieda plans to wear robes. Choir plans to not.
- Leadership retreat: set date (Sept. 28-29?) and location (onsite?) – to identify volunteer staffing opps, set FY19 goals in appreciative inquiry: what you value.
- Distributed updated calendar.
- Announcements: rotate through Board Members. Sarah circulate Sign-up Genius.

Unfinished FY18 Business

- RE Teachers (2). New applicants. In the budget: hire.
- Member Services staffing. Jamie not on anymore. Deb Rice, Anne Turner. Gwen has made a list. Annie be Cheerleader/Liaison. Marge will send descriptions to Board.
 - Inreach to existing members
 - Outreach to newcomers
 - Organizer for meetings
 - Greeter lead
- Gwen’s leave – plan in place. She will do stuff proactively. Gail will pick up some things. Volunteers will pick up some. Two months out.
- Gail’s role and support for Gwen’s leave. Will provide Channels. Frieda will proof before publication (and if on vacation will designate one of us to proof?)
- Affirm liaisons: Jen with Stewardship, Annie with Member Services, Joe with B&G, Meghan with Shared Ministry, Exec Comm take Nominating and Personnel.
- Youth participation with board – Youth Reps. Find a role. Re-imagining Coffee Hour. Invite to next board meeting, and work on expectations all together on September 10th.
- Covenant. Covenantal Faith. Share in Leadership Retreat? Sarah will send to Board. Covenant is why we are here.

Review summer reading

- How We Do Church – draft – Please get comments to Marge by Sep 10th.
- Policies/Procedures – draft
- Governance & Ministry – exec reading