

Minutes of UNITARIAN SOCIETY OF GERMANTOWN
Board meeting August 24, 2010

In Attendance: Berdine Whedon-President, Mark Bernstein, Walter Ceglowski, Norman Matlock, Linda O'Gwynn, Rudy Sprinkle, Mary Lee Keane Kent Matthies, Jude Henzy

Absent: Susan Bockius, Marny Walsh

Guests: Tom Smith, treasurer; Delores Hill Membership Committee Chair

1. President Whedon presented a reading and lit the chalice
2. Delores Hill presented a detailed report on current and proposed procedures titled: PATH TO MEMBERSHIP. The Committee will be giving more structure to the welcoming of visitors, their orientation, and the signing ceremony. Membership at USG involves both privileges and responsibilities. With the new procedures the signing ceremony will focus more on the members themselves and not on such things as financial stewardship. These things will now happen at a pre-membership meeting.

The Board adopted the following recommendations of the Committee under:

Motion #140: USG Membership Privileges and Responsibilities__
Status: Passed

- **Attendance at UU101 is a prerequisite for becoming a member.**
- **Only members may be chairs of committees.***
- **Only members may be part of councils.***
- **Only members may participate in congregational decision-making, such as the charette that was part of the Master Plan process.**

A complete copy of the Committee's report follows the minutes.

Beth Lazer has agreed to be the new member coordinator.

3. Treasurer's Report- Tom Smith reported that at the end of July operating incomes and giving are low, 4%-5%. The pro rata portion of the budget would be 8.3% at the in of July. Expenses are at 5 1/2%, exceeding current income by about \$4,000. August is the most difficult month for cash flow because summer giving is always a low point of the year.

The Consolidated Investment Fund (our endowment) and our operating accounts are now both being recorded in ACS, the accounting system that was adopted last year for 2010-2011. A separate checking account has been established for special project and non-budget funds raised by committees and then placed on deposit with USG. These funds will no longer be deposited into the general operating checking account. The process of transferring funds currently in the operating checking account will occur over a period of time.

4. June Minutes were not distributed. These will be up for approval at the September meeting. The Board did not meet in July.
5. Proposal for Ministries and Program Council (M & P)- A M & P Council was proposed as a 24 month pilot program with an evaluation at one year. The intention is to better blend planning, implementation of programs and evaluation of such at USG. This council would replace the current Program and Planning Councils. The Administrative Council would

continue as the only other Council. The Board adopted the recommendation for the Ministries and Programs Council, as outlined in the report below:

**Motion #141: Ministries and Programs Council Proposal
Status: Passed**

Ministries and Programs Council will replace Program and Planning Councils to improve planning, implementation, coordination and evaluation of programs.

Staffing will proceed by Berdine Whedon, Kent Matthies and Linda O'Gwynn.

USG MINISTRIES AND PROGRAMS COUNCIL

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Mission

The mission of the Unitarian Society of Germantown is to create a growing community whose members celebrate life's joys, explore and honor life's mysteries, and

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6. Report on Electrical Emergency (See Attached attached Electrical System Report)

Because of an early summer electrical fire in the switch/fuse panel in the hallway outside of Kent's office an emergency meeting was held on August 3. Board members attending were Whedon, Bockius, Matlock and Walsh, and, from Building and Grounds: T Schoonmaker, Carolyn Cotton, Howard Silver, Richard Bernat, and Scott Murray. Per the Report, the Building and Grounds Committee requested authorization to immediately hire Anton Electric to do the

Phase I work at a cost of \$16,089, to waive the Board requirement for second bid, and to fund the work from the USG budget contingency line.

President Whedon presented the following for ratification by the Board:

“AUGUST 5, 2010 The Executive Council voted by majority to approve the request of the Building and Grounds Committee to permit funding from the Contingency Fund for Phase 1 of the USG Electrical System Project to be commenced immediately by Anton for \$16,089” -

as outlined in the Ad Hoc Meeting Concerning USG Electrical System Project, August 3, 6:00-7:00PM.

After much discussion the Board ratified the Exec Council decision with funding modifications. Funding will not be from Budget's Contingency line.

**Motion #142: Electrical Emergency Funding Proposal
Status: Passed with modifications**

Ratification of Executive Council decision to approve \$16,089 emergency electrical work by Anton Electric. Funding modification: Funds to be from Building & Grounds budget with a request for \$9,000 from the Memorial Committee.

A complete copy of the Committee's report follows the minutes.

7. Austin Youth Lodge- Report of Youth Lodge Subcommittee and recommendation of Administrative Council to renovate the Youth Lodge 2nd floor into an apt for rent by USG, to decline an offer of long term building lease as proposed by the Nursery School, and to defer a decision on renewal of the current Nursery School lease. The lease ends August 31, 2011. The committee report is attached. The Board approved the recommendation.

**Motion #143: Austin Youth Lodge Recommendation
Status: Passed**

To proceed with plan for 2nd floor renovations. Long term building lease offer declined.

A complete copy of the Committee's report follows the minutes.

8. Master Plan Implementation Committee/Capital Campaign. Because of a lack of time discussion of the Recommendations of the Master Plan Implementation (MPIC) were deferred until the Sept. Board meeting. A complete copy of the Committee's report follows the minutes.

Next Board Meeting: 10/26/2010 7:30PM

Respectfully submitted,

Rudy Sprinkle

