

Chequamegon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
Board of Directors' Meeting  
April 20, 2011

**PRESENT:**

Beth Reed  
Irene Blakely  
Diana Granger  
Warren Kehn  
Jan Perkins  
Andrea Haugo  
Ed Calhan, upcoming member

**CHECKING IN:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 by co-chair, Beth Reed. The first segment of the meeting involved time catching up on what each member had been doing. We were pleased to welcome Warren back from his family visit to Arizona. Andrea is finishing her teaching assignment and is anticipating another family wedding. Jan shared her kayaking adventures with the group. She is also about to be certified as a healing touch practitioner. Diana survived her yearly tests in Baltimore which test her mobility and other MS problems and enjoyed catching up with old friends back in Virginia. Irene described both the potluck and circle supper held at her house. Beth continues her busy life including, most recently, learning about hunter safety. Our newly elected board member, Ed Callen will be visiting his son in New York City and will miss May's meeting which includes returning, new and retiring members.

**MINUTES:**

The minutes of the Mar. 16 UU board meeting were approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT and BUDGET**

Contributions of record for March totaled nearly \$1,500. The religious education youth raised \$300 from work at the Birkee and some of this money will go to Heifer International. \$177.45 was spent for youth T-shirts which should contribute to fostering a group identity. 82.64% of funds pledged by the fellowship have now been received as of the date of the April treasurer's report. We have \$13,099 in pledges and a total income to date of \$15,198.71.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**1. The April Annual meeting (overview)**

Brenda was present at the annual meeting and compiled minutes which will become part of the fellowship's official record. The meeting followed the agenda set at the last board meeting which included a progress report, reports from committee chairs, new policies adopted and the election of officers. Warren will be back for another term and the board will welcome Ed Calhan and Patty Dufek..

## **2. Question Arising from the Treasurer's Report at the Annual Meeting.**

The only item at the annual meeting which evoked any controversy was the treasurer's report. Some members felt that the current board was building up more cash reserves than it should. Board members who were present, discussed the need for a contingency fund which possibly in time could become the basis for a building fund. The board discussed the issue and reaffirmed its policy of building up a cushion for unexpected fiscal demands. It was discussed that our use of the Ponzio center could be revoked at any time and if we rented a facility elsewhere it would undoubtedly be more costly. Irene also made reference to the membership survey which gave a clear indication that a facility of our own was a long-term goal of our community. The board concluded that we may need to set up focus groups in the future to discuss the idea of what kind of a contingency fund we need and whether saving money toward a building fund is a reasonable objective. The new board might want to hold meetings after services to discuss some of these issues.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1 .Upcoming fellowship needs.**

Our two co-chairs will be leaving the board next month and the board will need to address this leadership gap and designate board roles at our next meeting. Other leadership issues include:

- a. Who will be Brenda's board contact?
- b. There is a need to sort out who receives honorariums and who gets other forms of reimbursement .
- c. The fellowship needs a new religious education leader.
- d. We need to find a person willing to handle publications after next year.
- e. We need to ensure our committee chairs are in place and each has a board liaison.
- f. We need to establish guidelines for recognizing the years of service of retiring board members.

### **2 Encouraging members to attend conferences and participate in training opportunities.**

The board expressed regret that we have not had more interest in training workshops or conference attendance. Possible strategies to promote these opportunities are:

- a. Have members who have gone to conferences or training sessions present an "infomercial" to the membership promoting going.
- b. Guarantee funding for attendance at these events.
- c. Be sure that opportunities are advertised on the web site and in the newsletter. There is the annual conference in Charlotte, NC, June 22-26, and the Leadership Workshop July 17-23 in Beloit, WI.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Chequamegon Unitarian Universalist Fellowship will take place on Wed. May 18 at 7:00 in the Book Bin room of the Washburn Library. The April meeting concluded at 8:39.