**Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of San Miguel de Allende**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

**(Conducted via Zoom)**

**May 12, 2022**

**Members Present:** Margo Johnson, President; William Dalsimer, 1st VP; Gary Belkin, Treasurer; Joseph Plummer, Secretary; Jurgen Ahlers, Chris Chase, Michael Murphy, Carolyn Simsarian, Jane Wilkinson.

Reverend Tom Rosiello, Ex-Officio

**Absent**: Christie McGue, 2nd VP

**Guests:** Cathy Canepa, Ellie Goodwin, Cliff DuRand

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by President Margo Johnson at 1:00 p.m.

Rev. Tom Rosiello provided **Opening Words**.

The meeting **Agenda** was approved as submitted.

Without discussion, minutes from the April 14, 2022, board meeting were accepted unanimously.

Jurgen Ahlers and Carolyn Simsarian presented a Board Covenant, which Carolyn read as follows:

“As members of the UUFSMA Board of Directors

we share the responsibility of representing all members of our Fellowship.

“In this capacity we practice deep listening as varying positions or issues

are presented for the Board’s action.

“We pledge in all our dealings to honor our UU Principles

and to speak with one voice once the Board has decided on any given issue.”

On Bill Dalsimer’s motion and Joseph Plummer’s second, the board unanimously approved the reading of this Board Covenant during Opening Words of each monthly board meeting.

**President’s Report**

Margo indicated that she, Dan Neuspiel, and Paula Peace wish to attend the 2022 UUA General Assembly as UUFSMA delegates, and the Board unanimously approved them for that role on Joseph’s motion and Bill’s second.

After Margo’s presentation of the proposal, Jurgen moved, Bill seconded, and the board unanimously approved creation of a Personnel Committee with Christie McGue as Chair.

Margo will schedule regular Zoom meetings to exchange ideas and concerns with members of the fellowship.

After discussion, the board tabled a proposed Dropbox policy pending discussion among Diana Amaya, Gary Belkin, and Joseph.

**Committee, Team, and Task Force Reports**

**Activities Committee**

Eleanor noted a fourth women’s group is planned.

**Covid-19 Report**

Attendees at in-person Sunday Services will continue to wear masks.

**Program Council**

Bill is making inquiries of other UUs that use program councils. He plans to convene the council’s first meeting in June and wants to identify a council chair and secretary.

**Committee on Ministry**

The committee will meet on June 13. It will present an announcement of the Ministry in Residence program to the UUA General Assembly. Christie and Phyllis Culp are investigating sources of outside funds for the MIR program through UUA and other philanthropies. UUFSMA members expressing a particular interest in supporting the program will receive inquiries for direct contributions toward a target of $100,000, plus $25,000 where subsidized housing is required.

Gary noted that he anticipates receiving a member’s donation for the program. Cathy Canepa recommended that committees identify their priorities for support from a Minister in Residence. Tom suggested committees consider support for the UUFSMA mission that a MIR could provide.

**Care Team**

Michael Murphy said the team has received no new member requests for support. The team’s designated @UUFSMA email streamlines the notification process for members.

**Membership Committee**

Jurgen urged board members to sustain personal attention toward new members, some of whom have expressed feelings of neglect following their public introductions. Five new members were welcomed into the fellowship in January.

**Children’s Education Program**

Chris Chase reported that the Aldea will allow the program for children to be staged once a month in the room behind the Sunday Service Hall, and a protocol will be created for their health-safety ingress and egress.

**Social Action Committee**

Jane noted that grantees continue to provide 2021 year-end reports and have been receiving 2022 grant disbursements as they are received.

**Environmental Committee**

Jurgen noted the committee would meet May 14 for coalition and strategic planning.

**Sunday Service Committee**

Cathy noted the committee is updating the greeting ritual for in-person service attendees. The revised welcome table will feature membership tags of different colors, coffee mugs for new members, and a guest book for visitors. To offset guest ministers’ expenses, the committee will solicit donations of guest rooms for them. Sunday Service attendance appears recently to be divided somewhat evenly between in-person and virtual participants.

**Endowment Committee**

Joan Wolf recommends that solicitations of bequeaths for the fellowship be focused around the Day of the Dead.

**Communications Committee**

Joseph noted the committee will meet toward the end of the month. Cathy noted complaints about grammatical errors in the Order of Service.

**Finance Committee**

No new business

**Treasurer’s Report**

Gary noted that $4,500 in new pledges were made after the pledge period ended and the budget was approved at the annual meeting. Despite uncertainty around financial forecasts through the end of the annual meeting, percentages of revenue and expense appear to be in line with performance in prior years. Cost-saving in receipt of contributions through Zelle and Wise transfer services need to be emphasized over PayPal.

**Minister’s Report**

Tom Rosiello noted he would journey to his Massachusetts lake cottage the following day. He will preside in Massachusetts over a military burial ceremony for a former resident of San Miguel. He is also developing relationships with book clubs to cultivate the reading program.

**Old Business**

No discussion

**2022 Monthly Board Meetings**

Second Thursday of the month at 1 PM CTZ

June 9, 2022

July 14, 2022

August 11, 2022

September 8, 2022

October 13, 2022

November 10, 2022

December 8, 2022

The meeting was adjourned at 3:59 P.M. CZT

Minutes recorded and submitted by Board Secretary Joseph Plummer