

**Shawnee Mission Unitarian Universalist Church**

**Board of Trustees Meeting**

**March 14, 2016 6:00 p.m.**

**Board Room**

**INVITE everyone in a caring community**

**INSPIRE the search for spiritual growth**

**INVOLVE all in working for a peaceful, fair and free world.**

<b>Voting members</b>	
Zach Irwin, President	x
Marjorie Rice, President-Elect	x
Ellen Landsbaum	X
Caroline Dawson	x
Brian Nelson	X
Adam Koehler	X
John Howard	
<b>Non-voting members</b>	x
Rev. Benjamin Maucere	x
Randy Burdge, Treasurer	x
Fiske Miles, Past President	x
Kris Koehler, Secretary	X
<b>Others</b>	
Thomas Hopkins	x
Mike Turvey	x
Rachel Wathen	x
Jay Hetz	X

Call to Order (Zach) 6:01

Chalice Lighting and Moment of Reflection

Check-In

## **Consent Agenda**

1. Agenda, March 14, 2016 Board of Trustees Meeting
2. Treasurer's Report, February 2016
3. Staff Reports, February 2016

Brian Nelson motions to approve, Adam Koehler seconds. Approved.

## **Executive Committee Report (Zach)**

1. Adam Wathen spoke to media regarding Black Lives Matter banner.

Nancy Mays involved in discussion with media outlets.

2. Board Nominees for 2016-2017

## **Board Business**

1. Using a portion of the Patsy Pierce fund to pay for the deductible on the insurance claims on the roof. This has already been paid – will pass back into general operating budget. Caroline Dawson motions, Marjorie Rice seconds, motion passes.
2. Accept revised Mission and Vision statements as guidance for goal setting / planning for the 16-17 church year. Marjorie Rice motions , Adam Koehler seconds – carries
3. Section 125 Plan – staff insurance payments pre-taxed, Zach Irwin motions, Brian Nelson seconds, motion carries
4. Communications Policy – spokesperson, need someone sanctioned to speak to the media. The Minister would be the contact person and it is left at his/her discretion as to who is qualified to speak to the media. Tabled for now, will review policy and possibly change language to update according to the current church organizational structure. Caroline Dawson will review policy, along with Randy Burdge's assistance. Randy Burdge motions, Adam Koehler seconds, carries.
5. Black Lives Matter sign – The church is getting pushback from the city of Lenexa regarding the signage. A 30 day permit was granted, but the sign was stolen a few days into the permit allowance. Lenexa forced SMUUCH to purchase another 15 days to allow for the signage to be visible, despite the fact that the original 30 days had not yet expired. Mike Turvey begins

discussion – does the government have the authority to make a decision as to what the church wants to say to the public? Cites litigation between Reed vs. Town of Gilbert.

Mike Turvey shares copy of Lenexa city code.

The Board will seek feedback from the congregation about leaving the sign up beyond the permit limit. Leaving the sign in place would reflect our desire to bring light to, and to stand up for this racial justice issue. It is causing a much needed dialog among members of the community. These goals are in line with our Unitarian Universalist values, and consistent with the mission of our church.

6. UUA Outreach Promotional Toolkit Beta - Allow a small group to seek the provided \$250.00 grant that goes along with it to promote outreach. Could also tie in to BlackLivesMatter sign conversation. Ellen Landsbaum motions, Adam Koehler seconds – carries.

7. Being Family Friendly as a congregation – Zach Irwin will address this in his monthly Presidential address to the congregation. Interested members were invited to comment on the message prior to being sent. Discussion surrounding recent conflict surrounding children being in community with adults in the congregation were discussed. Possible additional options for listening to services were discussed.

**Dismissed 7:47**

### **Action Check Out -**

Zach Irwin will remove statement about “non-spirituality” from revised Mission-Vision statements.

Zach Irwin will outline a congregational meeting so the community has a chance to discuss the issues surrounding the #BlackLivesMatter signage and campaign.

Request for Jay Hetz, facilities manager, to file another police report citing damage to our sign.

### **Next Scheduled Meetings**

Executive Committee: 5:30, April 4, 2016

Board of Trustees Meeting: 6:00 Monday, April 11, 2016 – Board Room

