

UUSJ Board Minutes - Saturday, November 23, 2013

Attending :

Bill Alsmeyer-Johnson - UUSJ Secretary, Mt. Vernon Unitarian Church, Rep
Pat Karlsen – Cedar Lane UU Church – At-Large
Nancy Sorden – Washington Ethical Society, Rep
Martha Ades – UU Congregation of Fairfax, Rep
Lavona Grow – UUSJ Co-Chair, UU Church of Arlington, At-Large
Al Carlson - UU Church in Reston, Rep
Catherine Scott – Cedar Lane UU Church, Rep
Marilyn Hathaway – Cedar Lane UU Church, Rep
John Gubbings – Cedar Lane UU Church, Rep
Rev. Terry Ellen – UUSJ Exec. Director
Bob Schurter – UU Congregation of Columbia, Rep
Rev. Cyn Snavely – UUSJ Administrator
Mike McCord – At-Large
Marsha White- Accotink, Visitor
Pete Fontneau-Accotink, Visitor
Yaa- Goodloe, Visitor
Nancy Boardman- Paint Branch, Rep
Carmelita Carter-Sykes- Paint Branch, Alternate
Martha Ades holding proxies for Hal Fuller and Lisa Johnson-Firth

The Board meeting was held at the UU Church of Arlington following the “Inspired Faith, Effective Action: Hands-On Training in Doing Religiously-Grounded Social Justice Work” program.

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

Following the introductions of each attendee, it was determined that the quorum was met and the agenda was reviewed. The main purpose of the meeting was for the committees to meet in break-out sessions.

Al Carlson recapped the morning session to the board and feedback was solicited on the morning sessions. There were several suggestions for changes to practice sessions, but the general sense was positive.

We discussed what each of us learned in the morning sessions. Letters to members of congress take 6 weeks to get through mail. Staff members say a personally written email has an impact. We also discussed how we can use the materials presented during the first session to instruct our congregations to decide what issues to advocate on.

We discussed who we are going to speak for - ourselves, congregations within our region. We need to talk to all our member ministers to see where they are at; some will only speak if their congregation has voted on a specific issue, others will speak on UUA approved issues. It is planned for Terry to visit congregations, along with co-chairs, and to meet with ministers and relevant congregational committees.

The board meeting then adjourned into separate committee meetings.