

# **UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE**

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FOLLOWING THE BOARD MEETING ON GOVERNANCE**

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The Board of Directors of Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice met on October 19, 2014 to discuss issues of governance and board structures.

The meeting was helpful in providing clarity to the Board members around their responsibilities, legal and moral obligations a group and as individuals.

As the Board continues its journey toward full effectiveness, it is recommended that the following actions or decisions be considered:

- Clarify the responsibilities of the person appointed by the congregation to serve on the Board prior to the appointment, in order to ensure that the individual is fully aware of his/her role and obligations
- Such responsibilities and obligations need to be shared with the prospective Board members prior to when they take office. This action implies that each congregation needs to be aware of the roles and expectations of UUSJ's board service.
- Clarify the role and fiduciary responsibilities of the alternate.
- Pursuant the Board decisions about structures and roles, codify the changes in the bylaws
- Complete the list of expectations related to Board members' duties of care, loyalty and obedience
- Encourage completion of the Board Engagement Plan and develop an accountability process
- The Board will continue to include representatives from the Congregations, will govern and support UUSJ, will offer the full range of expertise needed to fulfill the strategic plan, such as fund raising, public relations and marketing, advocacy and legal
- Establish an Advisory Council and offer membership to Board members who have completed Board service but continue to add valuable expertise and assistance. The Advisory Council does not need to be a group that meets and would require organization and management. The Advisory Council would be composed by individuals who would be asked to assist in those areas where the present Board members and the future staff may not have the time or the capacity to fulfill.