

## **MINUTES**

### **Annual Meeting**

Bentley Conference Center, Waltham, MA

April 25, 2009

Massachusetts Bay District of Unitarian Universalist Congregations

### **CALL TO ORDER**

District Moderator, Rev. Sheldon Bennett, called the meeting to order at 8:54am.

### **REPORT ON DELEGATE REPRESENTATION**

District Administrator, Judy Murray, was recognized and informed the assembly that there were 42 delegates in attendance, representing 24 of the 55 congregations of the District.

The Moderator explained the voting process to the delegates.

### **REPORTS AND RECOGNITIONS**

#### **President's Report: Melissa Quirk**

Melissa remarked upon her fifth and final year on the Board of Directors, particularly upon the forward movement of the District since the inception of Policy Governance and how it has shaped a very successful collaboration between the Board and District.

#### **Sharing the Good News**

#### **District Executive: Rev. Dr. Terasa Cooley**

Terasa recognized the enthusiastic support of the congregations to the District's offerings of resources that promote healthy congregations. She congratulated the hard work of the congregations, staff, board and volunteers of the District accomplished over the past year.

#### **Director of Program Development: Rev. Dr. Sue Phillips**

Sue highlighted her review of the Woburn Grant process reporting that \$32,514 was distributed to 9 congregations over the past year. Sue was also enthusiastic about the pending re-launch of the Chalice Lighters and looks forward to its impact on several growth oriented programs for District congregations.

#### **MBD Youth/Young Adult/Campus Ministries Coordinator: Greg Buckland**

Greg reviewed two distinct groups with whom he works: High school youth aged 14 to 18, and young adults aged 18 to 35. High school youth are characterized by being in a particular state of transition from childhood. Stronger congregational youth ministry is encouraged to help them maintain interest; also moving towards multi-generational models of ministry and community. Developing sufficient bridging connections are needed as they transition to young adults. One such connection is offered by the UUA Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry which maintains a registry of young persons interested in maintaining their UU identity as they move into adulthood.

Greg characterized young adults as being in a different transition as they create their adult life. Congregations need to be more aware of this group and develop ministry that takes their needs and interests into account.

#### **MBD Trustee to the UUA: Paul Rickter**

Paul highlighted several matters from his report:

- Trustees are considering new program for Youth Ministries.
- UUA Board will be implementing Policy Governance in the summer of 2009 and are in the midst of finalizing policies and Ends language.
- Trustees are considering a change to Article 2 of the Principles and Purposes.

- Paul is beginning his last two years of his term and encourages the District to consider who might best fill this role.

### **Leadership Recognition**

Board Director Pat Manley and D.E. Rev. Terasa Cooley recognized outgoing Board President and Director, Melissa Quirk for her 5 years of service on the Board of Directors.

### **District Business**

#### **Annual Meeting Minutes, April 13, 2008**

Motion to approve the minutes was moved, seconded, and approved.

#### **Financial Report: District Executive Rev. Terasa Cooley**

Terasa offered the following comments regarding the District finances:

- The budget deficit was offset with reserve funds.
- There are a number of ongoing unfunded mandates in the budget.
- One half of the budget is provided from dues paid by member congregations, the other half is generated from proceeds from programming and grants.

Query from delegate: Regarding Program Services, it was noted that \$20k was put into program development. Terasa responded that the Woburn Fund was now being used to directly support MBD programs. This was a change from the previous year.

Comment [JL1]: Terasa, is this accurate? My notes are a bit spare here.

### **Report of the Nominating Committee**

#### **Vote to Elect Officers and Directors**

Nominating Committee Chair, Mark Richards, was recognized by the Moderator. Mark recognized the Nominating Committee members, then offered the following slate of nominations for the Board of Directors:

#### **Officers and Directors of the MBD Board of Directors:**

Pat Manley for President, John Laurenson for Vice-President, Lilli Nye for Secretary, Laura Graham and Jeanette Ruyle for Directors.

#### **Moderator:**

Rev. Sheldon Bennett

#### **MBD Nominating Committee:**

Mark Richards, Melissa Quirk

#### **District Treasurer**

Jim Staton

Motion: The Moderator called for nominations from the floor. None came forth and the Moderator called for a vote for the slate of nominations. A motion was moved, seconded, and the slate was approved.

### **Conversation with the Board about the Purposes of the District**

Director Lilli Nye organized a group discussion around the current purposes (Ends) of the District. Delegates were assigned to one of five groups, led by a Board Director, to discuss one of the five District purposes. Responses to be compiled and shared with attending delegates at a later time.

### **Adjournment**

The Business of the District thus completed, the Moderator called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was moved, seconded and approved at 10.10am.

Respectfully submitted,

John Laurenson, MBD Secretary

