

Prairie Circle Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
Grayslake, Illinois

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Minutes of the Annual Meeting  
June 7, 2009

**Opening Remarks by Board President, Bruce Moon**

Bruce Moon, Board President, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Bruce reviewed the changes in the last year primarily the hiring of a minister. He also thanked staff and outgoing Board members. He reviewed the challenges we faced in the past year and our upcoming challenges particularly budgetary ones.

**Opening Remarks by Moderator, Mike Merritt**

Mike Merritt, Moderator, reviewed the voting procedure. A membership count indicated there were 33 members present. This number represents a quorum (more than 20%) of the membership.

**2008 Congregational Meeting Minutes**

Mike Merritt requested approval of the minutes of the Congregational Meeting of June 8, 2008. No comments or questions were raised by the Congregation. Bruce Moon moved to adopt the minutes as presented, Diana Fox seconded the motion and the minutes were adopted by unanimous congregational vote.

**Report from Director of Religious Education, Laura Tomsy**

Laura Tomsy presented the Director of Religious Education annual report. Questions were taken from the congregation. Her full report is available for review on the website and is attached to this document.

**Report from Consulting Minister, Reverend Elizabeth Harding**

Reverend Harding reviewed the activities she has been involved in this year. Questions were taken from the congregation. Her full report is available for review on the website and is attached to this document.

## **Committee Reports**

Mike announced that all committee annual reports are available on the website for review. He invited anyone to feel free to direct questions to any of the Committee Chairs. No questions were asked by the congregation.

## **Proposed Bylaws Changes**

Mike reviewed each recommended change to the Bylaws. The complete document detailing each recommended change is attached.

There was discussion and questions from the Congregation. In particular, there was discussion of the pros and cons of the change to Section 6.02 that stated that Committee Chairs are appointed to their position by the Board. Laura Tomsy put forth a motion for an amendment which would add the following to Section 6.02: "with recommendation by each committee for Board approval". It was further suggested that the term "appoint" be amended to "affirm". Therefore, Section 6.02 would be changed to read:

The Church Board shall create standing committees to include but not be limited to: Religious Education, Membership, Social Action, Worship, Finance and Committee on Ministry. The Church Board will affirm chairpersons for these committees upon recommendations from each committee. The Church Board must reaffirm these chairpersons annually. The Church Board shall appoint and supervise ad hoc committees and task forces, including their chairpersons, as it deems appropriate to carry out the work of the Church Board. These ad hoc committees and task forces must be reappointed annually.

Leslie Meehan seconded the motion. After additional discussion, the proposed amendment passed unanimously.

Fenwick Taylor moved to adopt the proposed bylaws changes as drafted with the exception of the change noted in the preceding paragraphs; Diana Fox seconded the motion. The bylaws changes were adopted by unanimous congregational vote.

## **Treasurer's Report and 2009/2010 Proposed Budget**

Brian Egan, in Mark Wilson's absence, presented the Statement of Financial Position as of April 2009 and the 2008/2009 financial performance. There was discussion among the Congregation.

Brian then presented the 2009/2010 proposed budget. He pointed out that the budget is not quite balanced primarily due to reduced pledging income.

There was considerable discussion about retaining the funds for the set-up staff member. Ric Sarmont put forth a proposal that we amend the budget to include a set-up person. Mike Merritt made a motion to add \$2000 to the budget for a set-up person. Rich seconded the motion. The motion carried.

There was also discussion concerning our contribution to the UUA.

Bruce Moon moved to adopt the 2009/2010 budget; Diana Fox seconded the motion and the budget for the 2009/2010 fiscal year was adopted by congregational vote.

### **Election of Church Board and Nominating Committee for 2009/2010**

Leslie Meehan thanked the departing church board members for their hard work and dedicated service. Leslie presided over the election of officers for the upcoming year with the following slate of officers proposed:

President	Steve King (2009/10)
President Elect	Teresa Aguinaldo (2009/10 – 2010/11)
Treasurer	Mike Merritt (2009/10) Mike agrees to complete the final year of Mark Wilson's two-year term.
Secretary	Susan Bellmore (2009/10) Susan agrees to complete the final year of Teresa Aguinaldo's two-year term.
Director	Norine Fendrych (2009/10-2010/11)
Director	Diana Fox (2009/10-2010/11)

#### Nominating Committee

Sara May (2009/10- 2010/11)  
Janice Simpson (2009/10-2010/11)  
Ric Sarmont (2009/10-2010/11)

#### Assistant Treasurer

Chris Kozlowski

There were no additional nominations from the floor. Leslie Meehan moved that the slate for Board Directors be approved; Lynn Hepler seconded the motion. The congregation voted unanimously to approve the slate of officers.

Leslie moved that the slate for the Nominating Committee be approved; Tony Niece seconded the motion. The congregation voted unanimously to approve the Nominating Committee.

Reverend Harding presided over a ritual in which outgoing Board members passed the baton on to incoming Board members.

### **Question and Answer Session**

The suggestion was made that we attempt to attach the congregational meeting documents to the e-mail rather than asking the members to access those documents from the website. Bruce answered that that is not currently possible with our bulk e-mail system but Sara May, Webmaster, will be working towards that for next year.

There was a question concerning Reverend Harding's status. Steve King explained the current negotiations with Reverend Harding and the future plans for a called minister. This will be a financial commitment that the Congregation will need to discuss in the future.

The request was made that next year we ensure that we have space reserved for the Annual Meeting for a longer time period so that we may continue discussion further as necessary.

### **Adjourn**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Bruce Moon; the motion was seconded by Diana Fox. The congregation voted to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Mills  
PCUUC Administrator