

Minnesota Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Minutes of Annual Meeting
May 17, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

Judith Anderson, Chair of the Board of Trustees, called the meeting to order at 11:54 a.m.

DECLARATION OF QUORUM

Judith Anderson declared a quorum present.

David Olson was appointed parliamentarian for the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dale Llewellyn moved the approval of the proposed Agenda, seconded by Janet Stevens, motion passed.

APPROVAL / CORRECTION OF MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING MAY 18, 2008

The minutes of the previous annual meeting had not been provided to the members before the meeting, a copy will be sent by e-mail to all members of record of the 2008 annual meeting minutes. If there are any problems let the chair know, if not, the minutes will be taken up at the next Board of Trustees meeting.

REPORTS

The Annual Committee reports were included in the handouts for the meeting.

ADOPTION OF 200-2009-10 BUDGET

The proposed annual budget and results of pledge drive were presented by Dale Lewellyn, Finance chair. After the presentation a motion to approve the budget was made by Dolores Roeder, seconded by Lee Swenson. The budget was approved on a voice vote.

PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT ON COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

The background of the amendment was given by the chair. Judith explained our new settled minister supports this model and would prefer a shared ministry model and one of the reasons he selected our church was that he wanted this shared model, not a CEO model of ministry. The history is that the board has been talking about this for two years. The last Committee on Ministry worked with Mary Samuels. Working closely with the board to assess ways to improve the model, a committee of David Rosewall, Jan Wolf and the settled minister search committee was empowered to come up with a

new model and the proposed amendment is the model they chose. This is a shared ministry model and the bylaws need to be amended to allow for the election of the Committee on Ministry. Under the current Bylaws the Committee on Ministry is appointed by the Board of Trustees. The amendment was approved by the board in February and now comes before the membership at the annual meeting for approval. A motion to approve the Bylaw amendment was made by Mary Koehler, seconded by Dave Rosewall.

An open discussion ensued, with the chair trying to balance those speaking for and against the amendment. A proposal was made to table the discussion or consideration to give time to provide more information. The parliamentarian ruled that the motion to table could only be made if it was tabled to a time certain at a new meeting date and unless the members were prepared to set that timetable, and that new meeting date, the motion to table would be out of order. The parliamentarian also clarified for the body that everyone would be given a chance to speak, the chair was simply trying to balance the pros and cons speakers to further the discussion.

After all who wished to speak to the motion had an opportunity to do so, the question was put to a vote: 37 in favor, 20 against. (Of the 57 members present and voting, the two-thirds majority for passage of the motion would have been 38 affirmative votes.)

REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE / ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES FOR 2009-2010

On behalf of the Nominating Committee Mary Woodward Kreitz nominated the following slate for election to the Board of Trustees:

Chair elect: Eve Webster
Treasurer: Jerry Gilliland
Trustees: David Olson, and Delores Roeder

No further nominations were received from the floor, and nominations were closed. The slate of nominees was elected as presented.

ELECTION OF NEW NOMINATING COMMITTEE

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Mary Woodward-Kreitz nominated the following slate for election to the Nominating Committee for 2009-2010:

Nominating Committee: Judith Anderson, Paula Nania, Mary Woodward-Kreitz
Nominating Committee Alternates: Lee Swenson and Carol Hobart

No further nominations were received from the floor, and nominations were closed. The slate of nominees was elected as presented.

OLD OR NEW BUSINESS

Bill Locken made a motion to reconsider the bylaw amendment at a meeting on September 20, 2009, with information sessions scheduled for November 6th and other dates. The motion was seconded by Luella Newstrom. Steve Danko and Kathy Park spoke against the motion. David Olson spoke on behalf of the Board noting that the Board would take note of the sense of the members, and would provide more information sessions in the fall and then bring the matter back to the members by way of a special meeting if appropriate. The pending motion was impractical in that trying to set dates, including the first Sunday back in the fall, for consideration of this issue was better left to the Board of Trustees. The motion was defeated on a voice vote.

Eve Webster voiced the sentiments of the members in thanking Judith Anderson for her service as chair of this past year. The members joined in that expression of appreciation for Judith's hard work and dedication.

There was no other old or new business.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the annual meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Submitted by
David Olson, Secretary