

**Great Lakes Unity Regional Board**

Meeting Minutes

Wed., October 18, 2017, 1:35 p.m. EDT

**Opening –**

The meeting of Great Lakes Unity Regional Board was called to order at 1:35 EDT on October 18, 2017 via zoom video-conferencing by Ray Nelson, president.

Board Members Present:

Ray Nelson, president	Meghan Smith, member at large
Kurt Condra, vice president	Vareta Foster, Alternate
Glenda Walden, secretary	John McMahon, UWM Board liaison
Carl Nawrot, Treasurer	Tom Sylvester, LUT Rep.
Deb Hill Davis, member at large	

**Opening Prayer:** Rev. Glenda Walden offered the opening prayer

**Check-in:** Rev. Ray Nelson asked that we share whatever might be keeping us from being fully present and anything we would like others to know.

**Vision / Mission / Values for the GLUR:** Members of the board recited together the Vision/Mission/Values of the region.

**Vision:** “Awakening Oneness, we empower an evolving consciousness that spiritually transforms the world.”

**Mission:**

**Values:** Committed, Empowering, Evolutionary, Integrity, Collaborative, Love

**Reports:**

- Secretary’s Report- Glenda Walden provided minutes from the following board meetings:
  - August 16, 2017 Ray Nelson entered motion to approve, Deb Hill-Davis entered the 2<sup>nd</sup>. No discussion. Motion carried.
  - September 20, 2017. Deb Hill-Davis entered motion to approve, Carl Nawrot made the 2<sup>nd</sup>. No discussion. Motion carried.
    - GLURC Annual Meeting, September 26, 2017: Kurt Condra offered corrections for Spelling and missing last names. Deb Hill-Davis and Tom Sylvester also assisted with supplying accurate names.
- YFM Liaison Report- Vareta Foster is training Meghan Smith-Brooks to assist her in this new position. Nov. 18 is the next YFM training event at Dayton, Ohio.
- Regional Representative Report- There was not a report provided for this meeting. Ray Nelson will check-in with him.
- Treasurer’s Report- Diana Repko provided an updated financial report.
- Conference Report- Deb Hill Davis met with her conference team at conference. They have a zoom meeting set up for next week. She has recruited her husband to explore other venues for 2019 that might be comparable to Pokagon, but noted that we get a very good rate at this venue.
- LUT Report- Tom Sylvester reported that there were 19 people in attendance at the LUT luncheon and the presentation was well received. He is continuing efforts to recruit LUT’s to assist with the scholarship fund and database projects.

**Old Business**

- Review of Pending Action Items:

- We now have a current business license in the state of Ohio. Glenda Walden will be going to Chase tomorrow to add Carl Nawrot to the GLUR accounts.
- We have been reinstated by Church Mutual and Glenda Walden received our new bill. She will forward to Carl Nawrot for payment.

### **New Business:**

1. **Data Base update-** There are issues with our database being kept. Kurt Condra shared the screen to demonstrate where the list is, what information is on it, and how ministers and ministries can renew their membership. Ray Nelson asked us to consider the following questions.
  - a. What ministries to include on web site?
    - i. Members only
    - ii. All ministries

Meghan Smith-Brooks suggested that we only list active ministries on our website so that people accessing our sight are getting current information. Board agreed by consensus.

- b. If no minister
  - i. Open
  - ii. List transition ministers

The board agreed that it would be too cumbersome to track transitional ministers, but that open churches who complete their forms should be included since the minister is still active.

- c. Calling lapsed ministries: It was the consensus of the group that each board member will call four of the lapsed ministries to encourage them to complete their membership form. Kurt Condra agreed to have Cindi Cousineau send the board a pdf and Word document of the membership form so that we can immediately email those to the ministries we are speaking with.

### **2. Board Training**

- a. Cynthia Vermillion-Foster recommended that we meet for 2 hours, 2-3 weeks in November. She suggested using several of her staff in this training and that we cover the following:  
Building a cohesive leadership team (based on The Advantage)
  - Basic roles of regional board
  - Conversation about how we can work collaboratively with one another – possibly beginning to work on some agreements between the Great Lakes Region and UWM

- b. Discussion included the time commitment required, concerns about holiday travel, church activities. It was also noted that sooner is better than later for our process and that meeting consecutively will aid us in gaining momentum.

- c. Tom Sylvester made a proposal that we meet January 10 & 17, 2018 at the same time as our board meeting. There was consensus amongst the board and Ray Nelson agreed to contact Cynthia Vermillion-Foster to confirm the dates.

3. **Regional Advisory Council-** Ray Nelson asked the description to be shared with the board. And noted that we have not been represented on this council since the resignations.
  - a. See attached description
  - b. Ray Nelson entered a motion that Rev. Glenda Walden represent our region on the Regional Advisory Council. Deb Hill Davis made the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion. No discussion. Motion carried.

- c. Deb Hill Davis entered a motion that Rev. Ray Nelson represent our region on the Regional Advisory Council. Carl Nawrot made the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion. No discussion. Motion carried.
4. **Sign-ups for teams-** Ray Nelson reported that he would send out the sign ups from GLURC to the respective team leads for us to contact.
5. **Death in Cindy's family**
  - a. Carol Nawrot entered a motion that Diana Repko purchase flowers No discussion. Motion carried.
6. **Drop Box Access-** Kurt Condra noted that during our transition having access to Drop Box was essential to the continuity of GLUR business. He pointed out that we've outgrown this system. John McMahon volunteered to assist Kurt in exploring other cloud options.
7. **Tithing:** Ray Nelson suggested that we continue to use the formula designated in the past for sending tithes.
  - a. John McMahon was able to report on how the tithe has been split in the last quarter and offered some history about tithing in the past.
  - b. Deb Hill Davis also noted that her church uses a standardized model and believes this would be helpful for GLUR.
  - c. Ray Nelson suggested that we add Unity Urban Ministerial School.
  - d. Glenda Walden entered a motion that 80% of our tithes be divided equally between UWM, Unity Headquarters, UUMS, and USI, and that the remaining 20% be tithed to the Shariff Abdullah Foundations. Kurt Condra made a 2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion. No discussion. Motion carried.

#### **Action Items:**

- Glenda Walden will add Carl Nawrot to the Chase Account tomorrow and then email Carl.
- Ray Nelson to contact Cynthia Vermillion-Foster to confirm the dates for board training January 2018
- Each board member will call four of the lapsed ministries to encourage them to complete their membership form. Kurt Condra will divide the list and send to each of us.
- Kurt Condra agreed to have Cindi Cousineau send the board a pdf and Word document of the membership form so that we can immediately email those to the ministries we are speaking with.
- Diana Repko to send flowers from the GLUR to Cindi Cousineau
- John McMahon and Kurt Condra will explore other cloud options for the region.
- Ministry Team Leads will contact members who signed up at conference. Ray Nelson to provide the contact information.

#### **Adjournment**

- Meeting was adjourned at 3:18p by Ray Nelson, president. Glenda Walden made a motion to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Carl Nawrot. Motion carried.
- Next Board Meeting- **November 15, 1:30p EDT**
- Closing prayer- Vareta Foster offered the closing prayer.

Minutes submitted by: Glenda P Walden, Secretary

Approved by: