

Great Lakes Unity Regional Board
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 20, 2017, 12:40 p.m. CT; 1:40ET

Opening –

The meeting of Great Lakes Unity Regional Board was called to order at 1:40 p.m. eastern time on December 20, 2017 via zoom video-conferencing by Ray Nelson, president.

Board Members Present:

Ray Nelson, president Kurt Condra, vice president Glenda Walden, secretary Carl Nawrot, Treasurer Tom Sylvester, LUT Rep.	Deb Hill Davis, member at large Meghan Smith Brooks, member at large John McMahon, UWM Board liaison Not Present: Vareta Foster, Alternate
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Opening Prayer: Carl Nawrot offered our opening prayer.

Check-in: Board members were asked to share a prayer concern and an appreciation.

Vision / Mission / Values for the GLUR: Deb Hill Davis read the Vision/Mission/Values of the region for us.

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

Mission: We serve, build, inspire and empower ministries

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

Agenda Setting: There were no additions to the agenda. Carl Nawrot made a motion that the agenda be approved as set. Second to motion was made by Deb Hill Davis and passed.

Reports:

- Secretary’s Report: Carl Nawrot made a motion to approve minutes as entered. Deb Hill Davis entered the second and motion passed.
- YFM Liaison Report: Meghan Smith-Brooks She will be meeting with the YFM staff once a month. Chase reported that she had given budget recommendations to the board, but was unaware of what her line item amounts are for 2017-18. Chase is exploring ways to raise awareness of YFM programs and trainings in our region. Chase had questions about responsibilities listed on contract versus what is noted on the annual conference materials. Recommendation was made that Chase contact GLUR administrator to update information for next year’s conference packets.
- Regional Representative Report-
- Treasurer’s Report- Carl Nawrot reported that he has been in contact with the finance team. Bob Uhler has accepted a position in Florida and will no longer be on the team. Carl has shares his vision for the finance team be more engaged in strategizing, recognizing trends, and discussing improvements in GLUR financials. His team is energized by this and will be up and running by January.
- Conference Team Report- Deb hill Davis reported that they have decided on a theme “Growing Through Change- Here We Grow Again.” The focus will be on how to navigate the turbulent times we’re in and to grow through them. They have also developed a short survey on areas of interest

on survey monkey for the membership to complete to assist with planning the conference breakouts and speakers. The team is reaching out to speakers and musicians for the conference and hope to have these confirmed by January's call. Valerie Mansfield is serving as the conference chair.

- LUT Report: Tom Sylvester is reaching out to those LUT members that signed up to serve on the scholarship team. Ray Nelson informed board that UWM does not recognize LUT's as members of UWM with voting status. He and Tom will be serving on the committee to research recommendations to the UWM Board/membership concerning changes to this status.

Old Business:

- **Drop Box-** Kurt Condra reported that Dropbox isn't as expensive as initially he had thought. John McMahon reported that he had explored techsoup.org and there is a system called Box that would allow up to 10 members. The board discussed the issues related to keeping dropbox to include having Ted Schneider as our administrator. Recommendations include making sure the next "administrator" is flexible enough to move with changes in the board. Ray Nelson explained who the users are and what they have access to as far as he knows. Ray Nelson recommended that we table this decision until January and then take a vote.
- **Data Base update-** Board continues to try to reach out to members. Everyone has experienced some challenges and noted that several of the ministries seem to have closed.
- **Affiliated UWM membership-** Ray Nelson reported that after examination of our bylaws he could not see any reason why the board cannot make the decision to become an affiliate of UWM.
 - Glenda Walden made a motion that the Great Lakes Unity Regions become an affiliated member of UWM by the power invested in the board of trustees. Ray Nelson made a second to the motion. Motion did not carry by a vote of 3-4.
 - Discussion of pros and cons- Pros include staff being able to participate in the retirement benefits. We would also be able to receive supportive resources from them to include conflict resolution, board training, financial direction, etc. Cons: The UWM board would have the right to place a member of their board on our board. The other con is fear of membership being "overtaken" by UWM. Carl Nawrot stated that we might want to consider how this impacts the composition of the board in accordance with our bylaws. Discussion followed regarding this point.
 - Consensus was to explore this issue with UWM parliamentarian and to ask other regions how they dealt with this issue.

New Business

- Ray Nelson reported that by offline vote, Cindi Cousineau was given permission to purchase a new printer for the region.
- Ray Nelson reported that our check crossed in the mail so that our policy was never inactive. Discussion followed on why we have insurance and what is it covering. Glenda agreed to send information regarding our policy to Ray Nelson for review.
- Policy and By-laws review- Ray Nelson will be meeting with this team after the first of the year.
- Regional Advisory Council: Ray Nelson and Glenda Walden both attended the conference call for the council. There was a lot of discussion around working together and in collaboration with UWM. The hot topic was whether to grant LUT's membership status with UWM.

Action Items:

- Kurt Condra and Ray Nelson will meet offline with the dropbox staff to discuss how that system might be able to serve us. They will also continue to explore Box from techsoup.
- Glenda Walden will pass on insurance information to Ray Nelson.
- Everyone continue to reach out to the ministries assigned to update data base

Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 3:17ET by Ray Nelson, president. Motion to adjourn was made by Glenda Walden and seconded by Carl Deb Hill Davis
- Next Board Meeting January 17, 12:30CT/1:30ET

Minutes submitted by: Glenda P Walden, Secretary

Approved by: