**Unity Worldwide Ministries-Great Lakes Region**

Minutes

May 26, 2021

The meeting of Great Lakes Unity Regional Board was called to order at

1:30 pm EDT by the President, Glenda Walden.

Board Members Present:

| Glenda Walden, Pres.(2023)Christina Garza, VP (2022)Carl Nawrot, Treasurer (2021)  Diane Stark, Secretary (2021)Ray Nelson, Conference Liaison (2022) Susan Liddell, LUT Rep (2022  | Wilma Taylor-Costen, YFM Liaison (2023)Cindy Yamamoto, AlternateGreg Coles, Regional Rep.Sandie Vanik, UWM Board Liaison)   |
| --- | --- |

 **Opening Prayer:** Carl led us in an opening prayer.

**Check-in:** Glenda asked us to share what is going on in our activities. Sandie, Cindy, Carl, Wilma, Ray, Diane, Greg, Christina, Glenda, and Susan shared their current doings and requests for prayer support.

**Vision / Mission / Values for the GLUR:** Read by Glenda.

**Vision:**   Awakening Oneness, we empower an evolving

                               consciousness that spiritually transforms the world.

**Mission:**We serve, inspire and empower ministries, ministers,

                                credentialed leaders, and laity.

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

                                Collaborative, Love.

**Secretary Report:** Carl moved, Glenda seconded, to accept the minutes from the combined FTF and monthly Board meeting held April 12, 2021, passed unanimously.

**Regional Rep Report:** See Attached. Unity of Grand Rapids is collaborating with Unity in Ada to move towards joining their congregations. He is working with Unity in Westlake in their transition. The report has all other information of his work.

**UWM Liaison Report:** Sandie shared that our use of Whova last year was a big help in moving forward for UWM. The Board is working with the book, “White Fragility.” They are continuing to work on reorganizing, on visioning, on moving forward.

**LUT Report:** A zoom meeting is coming up in June. As she gets questions, she is referring people to the person who knows the answer. Chris Gannon offered her help with expertise in the LUT program changes and updates.

**YFM Report:** Ray told us that Chase was nominated for Distinguished Educator Award. It is hoped that we can give it to her at the Conference. Work is being done on Tyler to be awarded at a Rally. Bonuses have been issued. Salary increase is in June.

**Conference Team Report:** Ray reported that they are all set for the event. The brochure will be ready in time for Convention. A save the date message will go out soon. Contracts still need to be signed. (Contracts are on Google doc), which is handled by Conference chairperson. The site of the Conference 2022 is the Holiday Inn, Elk Grove Village, IL in the effort to move the Conference around the region to be accessible to all, in turn. Cindy reported on the team’s accomplishments to provide the Whova app. Glenda will tell Cindi to open google docs to Ray. Christina has the template for last year’s contracts.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Carl, referring to the financial documents sent out, called our attention to the balance sheet, and the status of our situation. Carl shared that ??? said that they have greater confidence in the fiscal integrity of the Region, now that they are serving on the Finance Team. Ray suggested getting it in writing and posting it on the website.

**Old Business:**

* Update to Menu of Services: Glenda has submitted a menu to Cindi, and will send the final draft out to us for approval.
* Recommendation for Bookkeeper Position

Subsequent to interviewing 4 candidates, a recommendation was made to hire one of them, Alyse J. Nackson, who had a recommendation from Martha Creek. She agreed to be with us for our Conference. She has a Chase Bank branch close to where she lives. Glenda moved, seconded by Diane, to hire Alyse J. Nackson. Passed unanimously.

* Update from nominating committee: Greg Coles named four candidates: Carl, Diane, Cindy, and Ric Beattie. With Glenda’s resignation, there are three Board positions open, plus an alternate.

**New Business**

* Glenda’s pending resignation from GLR

To accept a position with Unity Worldwide Ministries, Glenda is resigning from the Board but will still be in the region until the end of August and will attend Conference. We will need to change the address of the Chase Bank we use. The bank will need a copy of the minutes and a letter saying who the officers are.

* Review of Scholarship Applications:

1. Cindy Yamamoto, Unity of Livonia: $500 for Board training.

Ray moved, Glenda seconded a motion to cover half of the amount, $250.00. Passed unanimously.

2. Sandie Vanik, Unity of Michiana: $500 for Board training. Glenda moved, Ray seconded a motion to cover half of the amount, $250.00. Passed unanimously.

* Discussion: Carl and Glenda pointed out that when we migrate from PowerChurch to Quickbooks we will lose the tracking of our membership. We need to find another system for doing that. Cindi looked at Neon. UWM uses this system. They are offering incentives if we decide to use this before the 31st.  The cost is $100 per month. $1200 per year. PowerChurch is $455 per year. Christina suggested that we do more research to find out about these different programs. Glenda suggested that we table the decision until we have more information.

**Action items**

Carl will ask Alyse how other churches maintain their stats and if they are happy with Neon, and which churches use it and we will find out if they like it. Ray will ask UWSI. Christina and Glenda will gather more information on what database systems are being used around the region.

Motion to adjourn by Glenda seconded by Susan. Passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 pm. Diane led us in prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Stark, Secretary