

Unity Worldwide Ministries-Great Lakes Region
Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2019 1:30 pm EST

The meeting of Great Lakes Unity Regional Board was called to order at 1:32 pm eastern standard time on November 20, 2019 by Glenda Walden.

Board Members Present:

Glenda Walden, president (2020), Ray Nelson, VP (2023) Diane Stark, secretary (2022) Carl Nawrot, treasurer (2022) Meghan Smith Brooks, YFM Liaison (2020) Eileen Stulak, Alternate2023)	Christina Garza, Conference Liaison (2023) Susan Liddell, LUT Rep. (2023) Sandie Vanik, UWM Board Liaison) Greg Coles, Regional Rep. Absent:
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Opening Prayer: The meeting was opened with prayer.

Check-in – Glenda asked us to share one thing you're grateful for: something we can hold in prayer for you Diane, Ray, Carl, Meghan, Eileen, Christine, Susan, Sandie, Greg, and Glenda shared what they were grateful for.

Vision / Mission / Values for the GLUR: Glenda read our vision, mission and core values.

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.

Reports:

Secretary: Approval of minutes moved by Ray, seconded by Carl, unanimously passed.

Regional Rep report: Loves what he does, what's hot is working with Louisville, Oak Park, Eau Clari, Ann Arbor. Next month Medina and Cleveland, they are alive! Growing individually and as community. Behind the scenes discussion about bylaws, Toni, chair board for UWM, getting input before Sept to roll out new bylaws template at the beginning of 2020. Standards team were taken aback with some of the changes. No explanation so far for them. So will meet in December. Meeting with Cynthia and Len, the parliamentarian and others, Some feedback, with all the other transition going

on right now, is now really the time that we want something to be required as an organization?

Meghan asked if there were consequences for ministries who do not adopt the bylaws? Answer: no. Meghan suggested using the word recommended instead of required. This was voted down at the Convention.

Eileen commented that the consequences might be that voting privileges might be lost and employment services might be lost.

Meghan commented that helping educate people to the benefit of using consistent bylaws, citing the years of experience.

Sandie responded that she was implementing that very idea at present.

Ray commented that ?? transparency was an important element of this conversation, and how important it is to ask and answer questions of all the members. By just being more up front about the reasons, much consensus can be build. Sandie asked Ray to forward her the reasons that he had collected.

Carl asked the due date for adoption. The period is three years to transition.

UWM Liaison Report: Sandie said that there was no meeting that had been held, but will be held in the near future. Sandie expressed gratefulness for Patricia Bass' approach to the current situation at the home office.

Treasurer's Report: Carl is collaborating with Diana Repko to get financial reports out to us earlier. Current report has a YTD error. He is working to discover the cause of this discrepancy. He says we are headed for a difficult end of the year. The historical comparison of income has been drawn up and indicates that we will need to change some policies and pricing structures. We are 13,000 behind in expenses over income. He also plans to look at transactions closely to find possible areas where we could increase income.

Forecasting for the coming year, he wants to include all costs and look closely at hidden expense that could be more accurately reported.

Intention is to get full value for every dollar that we spend. Ray said that we would do well to get into specific and clear ideation the changes that could be made, within the next two monthly Board meetings.

Glenda commented that she would like to prepare the budget earlier than the customary May face-to-face meeting time.

Greg expressed that we could think about the value that our finances are committed to and perhaps have a process to become aware of what values we want our finances to serve.

Carl responded that the Finance Team wants to think about exactly those questions.

Glenda commented that it may be a prompt to update our vision, mission and values statements. Perhaps have an outside facilitator come in to process that with us.

LUT Report: Susan is still working on getting Tom Sylvester's collected information synthesized and placed in accessible location. She is going to reach out to all LUT's to welcome them to the region and ask what she can do to support them. There is a new LUT at Unity in the North Shore, whom she plans to reach out to.

YFM Report: Chase turned in a report; Tyler did not. Chase is planning a retreat for adult YFM leaders. Has added more events to her 2020 calendar. She is researching topics on inclusivity, freshening topics used in the past. Horneacula retreat center will house the retreat. Just finished last webinar. She continues to work on learning more about building teams and embodying oneness.

Conference Liaison: See attached report for feedback on the Conference. Most people were very positive about the experience and wanted to continue the interactive qualities on it. The team will meet again on Monday to move ahead on planning the next Conference.

Old Business: RE raising the Conference price. Carl reminded us that there was an increase on the price last year, including the early registrations. Discussion followed, resulting in the need to look more closely at the actual expense of the conference and how much we need to make on the whole program.

Carl stated that we did make money on the Conference this year.

Old Business:

- Finance Team Recommendations will discuss more in January after recommendations come in from Finance Team.
- Conference Pricing
- Year end giving letter Ray will draft one and send it to Diane and Glenda.

New Business:

- Ideas for distribution of GLUR Support Letter – ideas more than smail mail, increasing the lists with youth participants.
Who has that information? Meghan says Tyler and Chase. Meghan will assemble lists of parents of attendees of events. And Chase's lists of people involved in YFM trainings.
Susan will add the LUT lists to this pool of mailings to solicit funds. And Conference attendees. Some attendees are not at a church. Greg pointed out that we may want to integrate this with our database. Glenda pointed out that there will be many names not in the powerchurch database, but they should be. We can create a procedure to add them, and a way to include all the disparate databases. Glenda will have Cindy cross check the lists. Glenda plans to add a list of our services to the letter, Christine added the suggestion to include highlights for the year that we

have accomplished, feedback from the conference. Adding the financial information of how much we are in the red this year. Glenda asked her and Carl to send some information to be included in the letter. Greg will also send his report. Letters are to go out by second week of Dec. Information to get to Glenda by December 3. Christina added that the comments of churches from the Regional rep's work would also be good testimonial material.

- FTF Location/Schedule – Glenda thought that the ftf was a bit late last year, in May. She proposes March or April. The Most central location is Moline, IL. Sandie asked if she was expected to come. Liaison has not come in the past. We can zoom her in if we need her. Ray suggests that we have the ftf right after the Conference, in the future. Suggested to meet the week after Easter. Glenda asks us to look at the dates we are available after Easter and email to her asap.

Meeting adjourned at 3:10 pm est.
Susan prayed us out.

Next meeting December 18, 2019.