

Unity Worldwide Ministries-Great Lakes Region

Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2020 1:30 pm EST

The meeting of Great Lakes Unity Regional Board was called to order at 1:45 pm eastern standard time on March 18, 2020 by President Glenda Walden.

Board Members Present:

Glenda Walden, president (2020) Ray Nelson, vice-president (2020) Diane Stark, secretary (2022) Carl Nawrot, treasurer (2022) Christina Garza, Conference Liaison (2023)	Susan Liddell, LUT Rep. (2023) Sandie Vanik, UWM Board Liaison) Greg Coles, Regional Rep. Absent: Eileen Stulak, Alternate (2023)
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Opening Prayer: Sandie opened the meeting with prayer.

Check-in – Glenda invited us to check in with, “How can we pray with you?” Each one present shared their concerns, needs and intentions.

Vision / Mission / Values for the GLUR: Susan 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: Carl moved and Greg seconded to approve the February minutes. Passed unanimously. Minutes from January were subsequently approved unanimously by email communication..
- Regional Rep Report – See attached. Greg voiced the idea of how to stay connected in this “social experiment.” The main item in his report was the standards meeting – main outcome was that they will be working closely with member services to outline who’s doing what? Some churches are experiencing a breakdown in policies and procedures regarding re-entry programs. Member services is being oriented toward that role, as well as interacting with the local boards. Some boards are collaborating more with each other in sharing resources and this is a new occurrence. Greg pointed out the recognition for Rev. Sharon Ketchum by the state of Michigan for her leadership in

response to the fire in her community. Board training in Michigan may get cancelled, but is still on as of now.

- UWM Liaison Report – The last meeting, after the annual summit, was a wonderful move forward. There has been no meeting since then. Patricia Bass has put forth communique's directly to all of us. Sandie expressed appreciation to Greg for his reports on the progress of the Standards Committee.
- LUT Report: - Susan is administrator for the LUT facebook page and sent out a message to LUT's to get on facebook. She is continuing to clean up the listing and have a consistent record of who our LUT's are and what they are doing.
- YFM Liaison Report – See attached. Chase sent report to Glenda – she will forward. Chase has sent out a memo on working with Youth and Family from a distance. Tomorrow she will do a teleconference on social distancing. She will probably postpone the spring retreats for Uniteens and YOU. More under new business.
- Conference Team Report – The team is up to date on preps; contracts are being held up to ask about whether there should be riders in the contracts if the conference is cancelled. The board concurred that this is a prudent action to take. Susan asked about refunding conference fees. Christina responded that we could do a teleconference or some reconfigured form of the conference. Susan confirmed that CEU's would be earned from conference programming. Musicians have been confirmed as Charles and ? out of Detroit.
- Treasurer's Report: See attached. Carl states that love offerings are strong for February and continue to be so. Expenses are going down slower than had been planned. The month of February was strong and the balance sheet is still in positive flow. Greg asked what we can expect if income decreases due to the covid-19 situation. Carl replied that it is something to keep an eye on, and he thinks that by summer we would recover.

Old Business:

- Update Ray Nelson –Rev. Ray has resumed full participation on the Board.
- Proposed move from Powerchurch to QuickBooks Non-Profit – Carl states that bouncing it off John, the recommendation was that we do it this year. Carl feels that in preparing for the face-to-face he will stay with powerchurch; then change over before the Conference.
- Budget considerations for 2020 – Carl proposes to reduce expenses by approximately \$22,000 which will bring it in line with income. John is assisting Carl in reigning this in. The changes will begin to be reflected on March.

New Business:

- RE expenses that are reimbursed for Board members/LUT rep: what is the policy? It is: Board members pay for their own housing at Conference. Conference fee is free. BM are responsible for meals. May be reimbursed for mileage. FTF, everything is covered. May be reimbursed for mileage. Members bring food. Region pays for one meal out. Expenses are not paid for Convention.
- Open Board Position- Farewell to Meghan – Eileen is looking at the commitment for moving into being YFM liaison and Board Member. Ray offered to step out of Vice President and take YFM liaison position. Greg asked Ray if he would be willing to keep VP and YFM liaison as well. We will wait to find out her response to these ideas. We are also looking at recruiting a Board member from the membership of GLUR. Greg speculated that he thought Eileen would join the Board as a trustee and we would bring on an alternate.
- YMT YEVT Worksheets – table for next meeting. Carl wants to use them for the 2021 budget preparation – and give them to Chase and Tyler to begin planning. Consensus in agreement with this.
- Coronavirus- GLR Response – Links are posted on facebook that come from UWM. Greg suggests sending out an email blast using the UWM material. Send out separate eblast immediately. Share in enews the links to facebook with information on best practices and what churches are doing. Greg will proceed with getting these things done.
 - Uniteen Retreat – Ray contacted Diane Vinzera. Half of the regions have already cancelled. It is the Board's responsibility to make that call. Ray suggests we cancel the retreat. Diane is developing strategies to use technology to create a new experience. YOU events are to be postponed. Greg suggests using the idea "recreate," and using the word "virtual" instead of cancel.

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Carl asked how we will manage the cancellation of facilities use and payment of usage fees. Christina suggested that we talk with the teens about this new avenue – it's more their wheelhouse. We recognize that this is Tyler's skill to include the teens in creating the programs.

Carl still wants to know how are we addressing cancellation of facilities use. Glenda moved that we cancel the Uniteen retreat and allow Tyler to recreate it at a later date. Susan seconded. Passed unanimously.

Carl moved that we ask Tyler to contact Carthage College about what is involved should the need to cancel the YOU rally. No motion needed. Ray will contact Tyler.

- FTF – Regarding the planned face-to-face meeting, should we change to a virtual meeting? Do we need to observe social distancing? It was pointed out that no restaurants are open. The consensus is to keep the FTF scheduled but to adjust to circumstances as they arise.

Ray prayed us out. Meeting adjourned at 3:35. Next meeting is presumably the FTF in E. Peoria, April 27,28,29.