**Unity Worldwide Ministries-Great Lakes Region**

Minutes

September 15, 2020 1:30 pm EDT

The meeting of Great Lakes Unity Regional Board was called to order at 1:35 PM EDT by President, Glenda Walden.

Board Members Present:

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| Glenda Walden, president (2020) Ray Nelson, vice-president (2022) Carl Nawrot, treasurer (2021)  Diane Stark, secretary (2021)  Christine Garza, GLURC Chair, (2022)  | Eileen Stulak, Communication Liaison (2020)   Susan Liddell, LUT Rep   Sandie Vanik, UWM Board Liaison)  Greg Coles, Regional Rep.  Absent:    |

**Opening Prayer:**

**Check-in** –Glenda asked us to share what we were most looking forward to and what we most miss about the upcoming virtual Conference. Glenda, Carl, Susan, Eileen, Ray, Cindy, Sandie, Greg, Diane, and Christina shared their feelings and anticipations.

**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:**

* Approval of Minutes:  Ray moved and Carl seconded that the minutes be approved. Passed unanimously.
* Regional Rep Report – See attached.  Greg is providing good information on Facebook for resources for ministry. He is enthusiastic about the candidates that are nominated for Board positions. Kitchener is working together successfully in their new process. Greg sees greater connections and expanded communications than would have been were it not for the pandemic situation. He states that it is an exciting time in our movement, a precious and sacred time.
* UWM Liaison Report – Sandie reflected that the Board has made great strides to achieve forward momentum, with an operations manager on site, and an executive director, replacing the CEO. Ray wanted to know if the new Executive Director is invited to be on the panel. Christina replied that it is UWM’s decision. Christine McFarland will be queried about that. Sandie asked if she was going to have a slot in the Conference. Glenda explained that it would be covered by Rev. Sharon Ketchum in the reports from UWM and UWH. Glenda commented that she is proud about the black leaders’ conversation that is being presented by UWM.
* LUT Report – Susan was on the sidelines last month because of the Cedar Rapids floods and power outages. The previous month had a very successful conference call. She is planning quarterly calls and is pleased with the level of connection and interest. Wilma is the speaker for the LUT luncheon, and she is looking forward to that event with great
* YFM – Ray stipulated that Chase is planning for 2021 and continuing to support all existing youth and family activities in the region. The YOU online events are running around 50 participants. Sandie shared how moving was the experience of two YOU’ers’ “Fly-Up” ceremony in her church. She mentioned that the youth in her congregation receive packets weekly in the mail.
* Treasurer’s Report – Carl’s report is attached. He pointed out that we are in a good position financially at this point. Christina asked if it would be possible to track the love offerings to the region from WDOP. Carl will look into that issue.
* Conference Liaison – Registrations are coming in and it looks like we will have enough to break even. There is a “dress rehearsal” on Friday. She reports that the operation is right on schedule. Cindy gave kudos for Christina’s work with the team. Susan asked if LUT’s can attend the luncheon. They need to register. Christina reviewed how to download the Whova app. Greg and Glenda will set up a room for orientation of new attendees. Christina called for a decision on how much cloud storage to purchase for the Conference. Motion for $40 storage purchase from Glenda, seconded by Carl. Passed unanimously.

**Old Business**

* Communications Policy – Ray will send the policy manual to everyone and a number will be assigned to this new policy. Eileen, moved, and Ray seconded. Passed unanimously.

**New Business**

* Glenda recommended that we tithe to Unity on the North Shore in appreciation for their work on Regional WDP. North Shore did a fabulous job with Unity’s World Day of Prayer. Glenda requests that we give a tithe to them for their efforts. She moved that we present NS with a love offering. Carl seconded. Passed unanimously. The amount can be a Board Choice tithe as administered by the end of the quarter by our accountant Diana. Ray moved that we give $200 of our tithe. Glenda seconded. One abstain.

Sandie asked how churches can proceed to offer movement wide or region wide events. Ray answered that by using the infrastructure and networks available.

Is there a place to post live streams in the regions? Not as of this time.

* A review of voting procedure during business meeting was explained by Greg, who added that Pat Williamson signed up for LRDT that they worked effectively to recruit good candidates.

Christina asked who is leaving the Board – Glenda and Eileen.

Voting will be done in the model of a survey. Only representatives can vote and they get two votes. It will be on the honor system. Pat W and Glenda will be able to see the results. They will announce them at the end of the business meeting.

Ray reminded us that there are two places for alternates and so all the candidates could conceivably be on the Board.

The question was raised, shall we meet after the conference and elect our officers? Ray suggested meeting immediately after the business meeting so the new officers can be announced at the next meeting. Glenda set the meeting for 4:30 just after the business meeting. All agreed.

Lastly, in previous years, we have reached out to membership and called everyone and reminded them to renew their membership and come to conference. So let’s divide up the lists and us make some phone calls in the next three or four days. And, everyone present is reminded to renew their membership. Agreed. Greg suggested sending a news blast, to go through our new communications guidelines. Ray agreed that we send an eblast telling everyone that they must renew their memberships to vote at conference.

Christina is sending Cindi the registrations so that she can keep a record of who is registered and who has updated their membership.

Carl asked if we can do anything to enhance our involvement in the Conference. Christina said yes. Register on the website. Download the Whova app. Engage with the icebreakers. Use the “at: sign. Say hello and comment on people’s posts. Upload photos and items of interest. Generate community. Susan offered to open a room around Holiday Services. Greg told us that the conference call will be talking about that.

Ray closed us with prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm EDT.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Stark, Secretary