



# Plymouth

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

## BOARD OF OUTREACH

### Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

Attendance:

Yes	No		Yes	No	
	x	Peter Eichten (2020), <i>Chair</i>	x		Sue Moses (2020)
x		Sally Cassellius (2019)	x		Paula Northwood, <i>Staff Liaison</i>
x		Birdie Cunningham (2019)	x		Jared Swanson (2019)
	x	Mary Jordan (2021)		x	Peter Vitale (2020)
	x	Kim Lutes (2021)	x		Gingie Ward (2018)

**GUESTS:** Daniel Wolpert, Maren Ward (zAmya), Esther Ouray (zAmya)

### ***Actions Taken:***

Sue provided the meditation, and the October minutes were approved.

### ***Agenda Items***

DISCERNMENT-Dan addressed the board on the topic of discernment, or the process of trying to get a sense of "What is God" in ourselves and in our lives. Another way to put it is how do we live our spiritual lives.

- One method of discernment is to examine our spiritual lives by looking inside and outside
- For each one of us, how we experience what is life giving is unique.
- Part of discernment is getting to know ourselves better
  - What gives us life? What is draining?
- We are also looking externally: What activities bear good fruit?
  - Galatians 5 contains a list of these fruits
- We decided to revisit discernment after talking to Peter E. about what he had in mind for the Board.

GINGIE wanted to know if there was a group at the church willing to buy 20 movie passes for Nicollet Square?

- Paula noted that there is a Nicollet Square budget line that might be accessed.
- Birdie will try to order tickets at a reduced rate through St. Thomas, and Paula will reimburse

### zAyma THEATER PROJECT

Maren Ward and Esther from zAmya Theater spoke to the board about their company, mission and how both might benefit from a collaboration with Plymouth.

Th company is in its 15th season, building understanding and awareness around issues of homelessness. zAmya is a sanskrit word meaning "Aiming at Peace"

It began as a one time project, then expanded to an annual project, with interest continuing to grow.

St. Stephens reached out in 2009 and invited the group to be a part of their mission, but they've recently cut several programs, including zAmya. They now have fiscal sponsorship through Propel Nonprofits (formally Nonprofit Assistance Fund) and their partnerships have expanded:

- Hennepin County library (regular basis)
- SW MN Housing Partnership
- Salvation Army

They need space (office, rehearsal space, use of theater) & some overhead. They would like to be a part of a larger social justice/outreach effort and would hope to eventually become part of another 501c3, rather than fiscal sponsorship through Propel (but right now they are just looking for space, as that is their most urgent need.)

Gingie moved that the Board of Outreach support Plymouth entering into a relationship with zAmya\*; Sally seconded the motion. All members present voted "yes" in support of the motion. Details of the arrangement will be worked out by Seth and other Plymouth staff members

Birdie wanted to note that the arrangement should have some type of a time limit (e.g. 1-2 years) to begin with, then both parties should evaluate the arrangement at that time.

#### FOLLOW UP TO EJ KELLEY'S PROPOSAL FROM THE OCTOBER MEETING

-We had a discussion about using money out of the Sandboe Fund to provide assistance to people identified by E.J. Sue moved that the Board allocate \$3,000 from the Sandboe Fund to be used for emergency situations outlined by E.J. at the last meeting; Gingie seconded that motion. All members present voted "yes" in favor of the motion.

GROWTH TASKFORCE would like everyone to consider what we are doing to promote growth Birdie noted that new programs, like zAmya promote growth.

#### **Next Meeting**

December 12, 2018

6:30-8:00pm , Room 203

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*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Peter Vitale, secretary (on behalf of Jared Swanson)*