

**Humanists of Minnesota  
Board of Directors Meeting  
June 10, 2020**

**Attendees:**

Harlan Garbell (President), Suzanne Perry (Vice President), Dave Guell (Secretary), Jerry Smith, Christine Retkwa, Marcy Woodruff, Mitch Thompson, John Walker

**Not Present:**

Nick Haylund (Treasurer), Ellie Haylund, Seth Engman.

**Location:** Zoom online meeting

**Minutes**

The May minutes were approved unanimously.

The board unanimously voted to authorize Nick Haylund to act on the Humanists of Minnesota account with Vanguard.

The Board approved the following resolution by email,

HumanistsMN (HMN) is deeply distressed at the violent death of George Floyd on May 25, 2020, while detained by members of the Minneapolis Police Department (MPD). As humanists, we believe in the dignity of all human beings and in racial justice, two principles that were severely violated in this case. As a result, the Board of Directors of HMN adopts the following resolution:

RESOLVED, the Board of Directors of HMN requests that all relevant city/county, state, and federal law enforcement authorities undertake fair, independent and thorough investigations of George Floyd's death while in the custody of the MPD.

Pursuant to these investigations, HMN shall support any and all civil and criminal actions deemed necessary to ensure justice for the family of George Floyd and the people of Minnesota. Moreover, HMN shall endeavor to support community efforts to oppose racism in the MPD.

HMN, in acknowledgement of the historic and endemic racism of the MPD, further urges that there be a fair and independent investigation of the training, policies, procedures, and practices of the MPD in its treatment of people of color; and that pursuant to that investigation, any discriminatory policies, procedures and practices of the MPD be remedied through appropriate discipline and programs.

There was additional discussion of the wording of the board resolution on recent events involving the death of George Floyd.

Christine reported for the social action team about ways to promote voting, promoting climate and environmental issues, and to advocate for medical aid in dying.

Suzanne reported on concerns of a member about using Facebook as a communications medium given that some members are not on Facebook and that the company has been involved in unethical behavior. The general consensus was that we should stay on Facebook as it is a vital communications tool although Suzanne suggested we consider stopping our Facebook advertising. She said we have not been doing much advertising anyway because of new restrictions by Facebook that have made it cumbersome to do so.

There was discussion of whether to hold the summer picnic, given the situation involving the pandemic. The sense of the Board is that July is too soon to have an in-person picnic. There was also discussion of whether to hold the coming community gatherings in-doors. The sense of the Board is to contract with FUS for the upcoming season, assuming FUS will be open to the public.

David Guell

Secretary