

Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota

Board Meeting

September 22, 2009

**Present:** Rick Sandler, President; Jim Craig, Vice President; Barbara DeMaio, Treasurer; Dee Widder, Secretary; Sue Moreland; Cathy Cyrus; Dana Keller; Pat Liebert; Joanne Curtis, Muriel Redifer, Rev. O'Neill  
**Guests:** Jeanie Craig, Dick and Diane Happy, Chris Bonner, Klaus Obermeit

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

**I. Reports**

Rev. Margret announced that plans are underway for a press conference on Sunday 10/11 as part of National Coming Out Day, 10/11. We are combining efforts with the Venice UU church.

On 10/12, the Asolo Theater is presenting *The Laramie Project Plus Ten*, a play about the murder of Matthew Shepard. Rick suggested he would ask Michael Edwards from the Asolo to be a guest speaker at the press conference on 10/11. (Edwards is not available)

The small group led by Nancy Thomas will be revitalized and called "Chalice Groups".

We are getting bids on possibly upgrading the office phone system.

We are enrolled in the District Third Tuesday Webinars, and since they conflict with Board meetings, we will be setting up an alternate viewing/listening time to use the powerpoints and audio version.

Jim complimented Margret on her excellent ministerial report.

Religious Exploration report was submitted.

All reports were approved without objection.

**II. Treasurer's Report**

Insurance update provided by Jim. Working to provide new policy by 10/14.

Childcare budget was under budget, may go over by \$200.

Total of \$2000 anonymous gift received for Sanctuary lighting

Dana brought up topic of returning pledges to those who have lost jobs and request refund. It was agreed that at the discretion of the Minister/President/Caring, the Minister's Discretionary Fund could be utilized as needed. Margret will write an article regarding the Minister's Discretionary Fund availability. FinCom will address \$ as needed.

### **III Old Business – Committee Reports**

B&G – Diane informed Board of a tree that needs to be removed in the parking lot. Dana suggested a piece of tree be preserved.

Roofers start next week.

Membership – Joanne reminded us that we are all part of the Membership Committee, please greet visitors

Chris Bonner informed Board that teens would like to set up a Teen Table. Good idea.

Contemporary Service – Tabled till Minister is available to coordinate, possibly next year

### **IV New Business**

OWL (Our Whole Lives) program – Chris explained that 2 females and 2 male adults would go through a teacher-training program

**Motion** by Jim, **second** by Pat that the church sponsor an OWL program  
**PASSED**

#### Music Director

**Motion** by Jim, **second** by Sue **PASSED**

The FinCom recommends that a salary not to exceed \$12,000 (on an annualized basis) be adopted for the position of Music Director.

#### Sanctuary Update

Sue explained that a proposal is in process to upgrade lighting, furniture, sound system, flowers, chancel, stairway etc to enhance the beauty of the Sanctuary. Committee members would be David Jemison, Muriel Redifer, Bob Einsweiler, Judi Hennard and others.

**Motion** by Jim, **second** by Pat **PASSED**

A task force be established to deal with an architectural look at long-term use of the Sanctuary. Sue Moreland as chair.

#### Transition Leadership Council (TLC)

Margret presented the names of the members of the committee: Gail Colella, Tom Cook, Julie Leach, Paul Lewis, Jim Raudabaugh and Dee Widder. This committee will look at what can be accomplished to take the church to the next step

#### Additional Topics

Cathy Cyrus – suggest there be a members' exchange of jobs wanted, trades available, etc be posted on the website. Jan Dorsett will manage the software. Cathy will study further with Don DeMaio, return with more information. Margret will send out an inquiry on the ministers' e-mail chat list to see if there are any other churches that are doing the same, and can provide us with guidance on doing it.

#### Don DeMaio

Our church has been offered time on radio station WSLR. Website tidbits – 780 people visited website in September. Most of the visitors to the church have come by reading website. The website needs a gatekeeper of contents. Don is technical manager. Rick will contact candidates. Appreciation was given to Don for his diligent work on managing the website.

#### Rick

Nancy Thomas submitted final COSM report  
Thank you received from Florida District for being a Fair Share congregation  
Thank you received from Ringling College for our donation of \$628 to their campus ministry

#### Facility Committee

Pat will monitor rental process through the FinCom. Pat/Barbara and Sandy need to rework rental status/policies/fees. Members of the Finance Committee assured the Board that the committee was following the policies outlined in the manual

#### Other

Julie Leach and Susan Hallock developed an Emergency Assistance Information sheet to help the Office Administrator when receiving requests.  
Richard Czina installed a speaker in the kitchen so the service can now be heard in there.

Meeting Adjourned 9PM. Next meeting October 20 at 7PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee Widder  
Secretary