

Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota

Board Meeting

February 16, 2010

Present: Rick Sandler, President; Muriel Redifer, Vice President; Barbara DeMaio, Treasurer; Dee Widder, Secretary; Sue Moreland; Cathy Cyrus; Pat Liebert; Joanne Curtis, Dana Keller; Sara Slate. Rev. O'Neill

Settled Minister Search Team Nominees: Ron Brown, Ruth Agnew, Jeanie Craig, Don Slate, Wilda Meier, Gail Van Peenan, Jim Raudabaugh, Ruth Sheridan. Absent: Shirley Foss

The Search Team nominees were welcomed to the Board meeting and introduced themselves. Members of the Board volunteered their individual expertise. Election will be held at the Annual Meeting on March 28. Installation will be held either April 4 or 11.

Board Meeting called to order at 7 PM.

Guests: Dick and Diane Happy, Jim Raudabaugh, Jeanie Craig, Don Slate, Tom and Catherine Dente, Barbara Silvera

I. All reports accepted by consent. **Census** stands at 315 members.

II. **Treasurer's Report -**

Various Financial Observations:

- Somewhat ahead in pledge income this year
- Sunday collections behind schedule
- Extra plumbing bill repair last week
- We have paid all our dues to the UUA

Pat Moved, second by Cathy that the Eleanor Lvov concert on April 11 go forward **PASSED**

Pat moved, second by Dana that the Religious Education and Social Justice Action pancake brunch fundraiser go forward on March 7 **PASSED**

Rick mentioned that there is the possibility for a jazz group rental on Fridays

III. **Old Business**

A thank you letter was received from the Booker High School Tonadoes who performed at the Stewardship Dinner on February 6.

IV. **New Business**

Rick reported that he has received a letter of resignation from Sandy Theiss, Office Administrator, effective February 26, 2010.

Sue, Staffing Task Force, reported that volunteers are being coordinated to manage the office from Tuesday thru Friday from 10 - 2. Diane said she has a list of 11 volunteers.

Motion by Sue, second by Pat that Elaine Foster be hired as a temporary bookkeeper. She will attend to payroll and bill paying for 10 hours a week. She will begin training with Sandy on Wednesday February 24. Salary being negotiated. **PASSED**

The *Contact* will be suspended in favor of weekly written and online announcements in the Order of Service including a Calendar of events. The newsheet will be mailed to those who do not have email.

Motion by Pat, second by Sue that we honor Sandy's 6 years with us by giving her a severance package of her unused vacation pay and medical health account, not to exceed \$2500. **PASSED**

Marie Keeney sent an email suggesting a temporary person be hired immediately rather than use of volunteers. For now, it was agreed that this is not feasible for our circumstances of part time hours.

Endowment Meeting will be held February 28 after the church service. All related material has been mailed to members. Pat requested the Board contact 6 people each to ensure they understand and vote for the requests. It is basically a "cleaning up of language" requirement to update the previous policy. Rev Margret will explain the context of the Endowment changes.

2010 Fiscal Year Budget - Dick Happy said the Auction came in higher than budgeted...nearly \$22,000 raised. Pledge cards coming in with most increasing their pledges. Update to follow next month.

Joanne informed us of the March 6 **Cluster** Meeting to be held in our church. Topic is Religious Education. Assistance is needed.

The Allmans have donated a homemade pipe organ for use in the Sanctuary. It will be given a trial basis, determination to be made by the Congregation and the Board of Trustees.

V. Work on the goals for the interim period (Rev. Margret)

Observations by Margret:

- We need to define roles and rules
- Facilitate policies so we can provide foundation for employees to work from
- Need clear line of authority
- Need person at the top to be responsible
- Also need to leave room for individual strengths

A **Goal One Task Force** will work on reworking the rules so there is less ambiguity for the Search Committee and the employees
Sara Slate and Joanne Curtis will serve as co-chairs.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50PM. **Next meeting Tuesday, March 16 at 7PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Dee Widder