

Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota
Board of Trustees
February 15, 2011

**Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota
Board of Trustees
February 15, 2011
Minutes**

Call to order

Rick Sandler, President called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 pm.

Attendance

Present: Rick Sandler, President, Sue Moreland, Vice-President, Dick Happy, Treasurer, Rev. Margret O'Neill, Trustees: Joanne Curtis, Pat Liebert, Sara Slate, Church Administrator Roberta Druif and Jill Collum, Lifespan/SJ Director.

Guests: Donna Allman, Molly Robinson, Don DeMaio and Julie Leach

Approval of minutes of the January 18, 2011

The minutes from the January 18, 2011 were accepted as written.

Reports

There were no questions on the reports submitted by the President, the Minister, the Lifespan Social Justice Director and the Administrator or the census report supplied by Jeanie Craig.

Ministerial Search Committee

Rick Sandler distributed a page from the UUA Settlement Manual that outlined the process that is followed when a minister is offered a candidacy at a church. The Ministerial Search Committee will be finishing the pre-candidate process on February 20. That will be followed by creating criteria to select the best candidate. The Search Committee plans to call the candidate at 12:00 noon (Eastern Time) on Tuesday March 15 (the earliest an offer can be made.) If the minister accepts, the ministry agreement must be negotiated by the minister and the negotiating team.

Once all of the issues are settled, the minister and the president sign the agreement. Then the congregation is notified that there is a candidate. The next board meeting is scheduled for March 15; so it is very likely that much of the board's business will focus on the candidate and the logistics of candidating week now scheduled for April 3-10.

Treasurer's Report

FY 2010-2011 Budget

Dick Happy reported that nearly 93% of the pledges have been received and just under 90% of the projected income from the Sunday collections have been received. Not shown on the treasurer's report was the endowment income to date of \$24,862 and the \$14,000 income to date from the service auction. Dick noted the EFT and credit card options are being used by congregants.

On the expense side, the contract bookkeeping costs are greater than expected, but this is a new position and it was difficult to project the precise costs. Dick also noted that the tree care budget was 11.67% more than projected and that this year's hiring costs were high due to the employing of several new staff people. Judy McGrath, our newest employee, is a great addition to the current staff, Dick said. Our income YTD \$329,233.93; expenses 315,286.38; net ordinary income is \$13,947.55.

Promissory Note

Dick Happy distributed copies of a promissory note for \$18,520.56. The note promises to pay the UUCS Endowment Fund, Inc. the principal sum plus 5% per annum. The proceeds of the note will be used to pay for the costs of the refurbishment of the Rose McKenzie House. It is expected that the Rose McKenzie House will generate \$7000 per year when it is rented.

A motion was made by Dick to approve a promissory note for a loan for \$18,520.56 from the Endowment Board, terms to include 5 per cent per annum for ten years. Joanne Curtis moved the motion and Pat Liebert seconded. The motion was passed.

Policy Manual

Roberta Druif announced that the newly revised policy manual will be posted on the website after some minor changes are made to the personnel policy section. Roberta will be meeting with the Personnel Committee about the changes.

Board Retreat

There was a discussion about rescheduling the Board Retreat. The topics for the retreat would include board orientation for new board members, goal setting and a discussion about conflict management. Saturday, April 23 was the date that was selected. The time will be determined.

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New Business

Annual Meeting

Rick Sandler announced that Nominating Committee will be publishing their slate of officers and directors for the Board of Trustees and for the Nominating Committee in the February 27th Weekly Contact. The Annual Report is being ably compiled by Judy McGrath in preparation for the Church's Annual Meeting on March 27.

District Meetings

Rev. Margret O'Neill announced that our church will be hosting the Florida District meeting on March 12, from 10:00-2:00. It is a four hour workshop entitled, **Empowering Lay Ministry: Power from the Pews**. Our only responsibility will be to provide the space; Ken Hurto, District Executive is handling all of the logistics, Margret said. Board members were encouraged to attend. The cost is \$15 a person or \$35 for a 3 person congregation team.

Southwest Cluster

On February 26, from 9:00- 2:30 the Southwest Cluster of Unitarian Universalists in Florida and the Florida District will present a panel discussion and workshop on the **Future of the Free Church** at the UU Church of Port Charlotte. The cost is \$15 and includes lunch. Board members were encouraged to attend.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Slate

Acting Secretary