

Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota  
Board of Trustees  
December 13, 2011  
Minutes

**Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota**

**Board of Trustees**

**December 13, 2011 Minutes**

**Call to order**

**Rick Sandler, President** called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 pm after a 6:30 Christmas gathering.

**Attendance**

Present: Rick Sandler, President, Julie Leach, Vice-President, Dick Happy, Treasurer, Trustees: Pat Liebert, Jeanie Craig, Donna Allman, Don DeMaio, Pete Van Peenan, Molly Robinson, Staff members: Rev. Roger Fritts, Roberta Druif, Church Administrator, and John Irvin, Director of Religious Education. Guests: Tom and Cathy Dente

**Reports**

There were no questions about the report that was submitted by the President, but Rick called the Board members attention to the upcoming important dates in the Church Administrator's Report regarding the budget hearing and annual meeting. Board member attendance is strongly requested at these meetings. The Minister's report generated some discussion and a motion was made by Dick Happy, and seconded by Don DeMaio, and unanimously approved by the Board:

Motion:

The Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota, Florida adopts the following resolution:

**Minister's Housing Allowance**

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota, Florida compensates Rev. Roger Fritts exclusively for his services as a minister. Therefore, of the total compensation paid to Rev. Fritts for the calendar year 2012, we designate \$60,000 to be a housing allowance pursuant to section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code. This designation of \$60,000 as a housing allowance will apply to calendar year 2012 and future years unless otherwise provided.

### **Approval of minutes**

The minutes from the November 15, 2011 Board meeting were accepted as written.

### **Treasurer's Report**

#### **Budget Performance Year to Date**

Treasurer Dick Happy provided an overview of the church's finances through the Budget Performance Report as of December 5, 2011. There are no concerns at this time, but the Treasurer suggested certain Budget adjustments be made as follows:

Motion:

- 1) Increase the Membership Budget by \$450 for the current fiscal year – we have a large number of new members, resulting in increased costs for the membership committee.
- 2) Pay Jan and Robert for the time spent organizing, rehearsing, performing for the AIDS day Service. The AIDs Day service is not in the letters of agreement we have with both. Recommended by the Personnel Committee and the Finance Committee that they be paid \$125 for each rehearsal and \$125 for the Service itself with the total being \$375 for Robert and \$250 for Jan.
- 3) That the savings for both the above items come from the unused RE Director Salary and Benefit line items.
- 4) Approve the proposed costs of the eight Second Services (the last two come in April, the next budget year) – child care \$400, guest musicians \$600, accompanists – up to \$1000, custodian – up to \$400, guest speakers \$0 (can be taken care within current budget). Total \$2300. Costs to be taken out of unused RE Director's Salary and Benefits budget.

Pat Liebert moved that these adjustments be accepted by the Board and Molly Robinson seconded the motion. The Board unanimously accepted the motion.

### **Old Business**

#### **By -Law Revisions:**

Since the By-law task force chair, Sara Slate, was absent tonight, this agenda item was tabled until next meeting.

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**Proposal to Change the Name of the Church:**

Tom and Cathy Dente, church members and guests at the meeting, presented a petition to the Board containing the signatures of 40 church members who supported a vote at the annual meeting regarding changing the name of the church from The Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota to The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Sarasota. The Board reviewed the petition and since the signatures appeared to be in order, agreed that procedures had been met to have such a vote included in the agenda for the annual meeting. No motion by the Board was required because the petition process is described in the by-laws.

A general discussion was held about having a church-wide conversation about this proposal before the annual meeting, and Tom and Cathy agreed to come up with a process for allowing a full discussion of the topic through the website and other means. They will send a proposed plan for the discussion to the Board.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Leach, Vice President