

## UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF SARASOTA

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Meeting Minutes – June 20, 2017

Draft

**Attending:** Ward Pallotta, Mary Lou Keller, Lynda Hill, Ava Whaley, Dale Anderson, Anne McFarlane, Charles Lee, Claudia Holtzclaw, Bill Payton

**Staff:** Roger Fritts

**Excused:** Susan Cook-Hallock, John Yoder, Roberta Druiff (attending GA)

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1. **Welcome/Check-In:** Ward called the meeting to order at 7pm. He read excerpts from “Is Your God Dead?” by Prof. George Yancy in the NYT. Yancy challenges us to fight separateness and show compassion for the other. Members shared life happenings and past and upcoming travel experiences.
  2. **Review/Approval of Minutes:** **The minutes of May 23, 2017 were approved without change.**
  3. **Administrative Reports**
    - **Treasurer:** Bill reported that our finances are healthy with 94% of our pledge goal met. That said, we are still \$30K short of our goal. Rental income and Sunday collections are up, with new members added monthly, and we are confident we will meet our goal. LWR was denied their grant request from the UUA but still has \$6200 in reserve. They may come back to the Board for funding if needed.
  4. **Old Business**
    - **Renaming the Jefferson Room:** Ward discussed a proposal by Social Justice to rename the Jefferson Room, as many other churches have done, because he was not a Unitarian. James Reeb, Julia Ward Howe and Lucy Stone were suggested. Since many are not familiar with these names, Ward will provide more information about them for the next Board meeting. The Board will vote on a name in October.
    - **Roger in LWR: A motion was made and approved** for Roger to lead the service a total of three times a year in LWR, as long as he was not absent two consecutive Sundays from UUCS.
    - **Strategic Plan Update:**

**Major Capital Replacement Plan:** Bill proposed a motion to conduct an annual review of Repair and Replacement needs for the next five years and to budget 20% of that annual five-year review. To date, parking lot lights have been replaced, new air conditioning units installed in the West Wing and the

sidewalks and courtyard will be resurfaced with a non-slip coating. **A motion to adopt the policy was made, accepted and approved unanimously.**

**Risk Assessment:** Bill Payton led a task force evaluating church risks based on criteria provided by an insurance company specializing in church insurance. **A motion was made and approved to proceed with five recommendations to reduce risk:** 1) A policy statement on risk management and safety will be included in the Board's review of church policies, 2) A portable defibrillator will be acquired and key personnel trained in its use, 3) The congregation will be educated on the fact that the sliders in the sanctuary are unlocked on Sundays and can be used in an emergency, 4) We will consider holding an emergency drill during one service, and 5) We will paint the parking lot blocks (bumpers) optic yellow to improve their visibility.

**Leadership Development:** Ward summarized key take-a ways from the mentoring workshop led by Karen Bush in June. They include: being a model of service, showing joy, talking about the value derived from a role as leader, and using positive gossip to spread good news, give credit to others and create a caring community. Ward reminded the Board that there are binders in the office with bios of members' interests, skills and experience.

**Policies and Procedures Review:** Lynda reviewed current policies and procedures and recommended each committee chair review the policies of their committee to determine whether they are consistent with current practice, are realistic and clear, are enforceable, are appropriate for a growing congregation and whether there are procedures to implement each policy. Lynda, Roberta and Karen Bush will determine a process for doing so. Ward recommended that all Board members read or re-read church by-laws.

**Mission Statement:** Dale distributed three mission statements. The Board voted to adopt the following: *To build a welcoming, progressive community that helps people lead lives of meaning and purpose.*

**Growth and Facilities Planning:** Charles Lee, together with Bob Meadows, surveyed members with space considerations about their current and future space needs for our growing church. Charles will report on findings at a future Board meeting.

## 5. New Business

The church is looking for members to chair or co-chair Stewardship, the Auction and Social Justice.

It was decided to address Josh Leach's ordination a year from now, closer to the time he will be ordained.

Bill reminded everyone to say hello to visitors and welcome them.

Mary Lou Keller asked about the presence of our LWR church on the website during the summer when that church is in recess. It was agreed that there should be a presence all year.

- 6. Adjourn:** Ward adjourned the meeting at 8:55 pm. There will be no Board meeting in July. The next scheduled Board meeting will be Tuesday, August 22, 2017.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ava Whaley