

# UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF SARASOTA

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### Meeting Minutes – September 20, 2016

---

**Attending:** Charles Lee, Nancy Thomas, Diane Happy, Ward Pallotta, Bill Payton, Ava Whaley, Dale Anderson, Lynda Hill, Mary Lou Keller, John Yoder

**Staff:** Roberta Druif, Susan Cook-Hallock, Roger Fritts

**Members in Attendance:** John Clark, Karen Bush

---

- 1. Call to Order:** Charles called the meeting to order and invited Roberta to present early on the agenda.
- 2. Director of Finance and Operations:** Roberta reviewed the current status of pledge commitments, budget performance to date and proposed adjustments in the 2016-17 operating budget, resulting in a balanced (zero sum) target. **Motion: To accept revisions as proposed and the resulting balanced budget target for fiscal year 2016-17. Passed unanimously.**
- 3. Welcome, Check-In:** Charles began with a special reading followed by members who shared recent life experiences.
- 4. Review of August 16, 2016 Minutes: Hearing no suggestions for change or correction, the minutes were accepted as distributed.**
- 5. Administrative Reports:**

Highlights of emailed reports and board presentations included:

  - **President's Report:** Charles reported on his recent trip which included time with friends and volunteering at the UU Mountain Retreat and Learning Center in Highlands, NC.
  - **Minister's Report:** Roger invited the board to attend the November 6 UUCS Sunday Service to be introduced as a group and individually.
  - **Treasurer's Report:** Bill followed up on discussion of the likely future need to replace the grand piano in the church sanctuary. Estimated cost is \$18,000. John Clark offered to research the possible gift of a grand piano by the piano manufacturer, Yamaha. Bill reviewed a recommendation from the Finance Committee to accept the offer of Bill Orcutt to give the proceeds of his late wife's art sales (Lexow Room gallery); 20% to UUCS and 80% dedicated gift to the UUCS Arts Council. **Motion: Made and passed unanimously.**

- **Director of Religious Education:** Susan reviewed RE activities, RE Committee meeting, communication and special events of the last month. Parents and children had fun spreading mulch on a recent Saturday.

## 6. Planning Process Update

- **Leadership Development:** Charles reviewed progress to date in establishing a team to study and propose strategies to support leadership development. Members will be drawn from the board, Membership and Nominating Committees. The need for more men was noted. Karen Bush to facilitate. The team, still in formation, will focus on both leadership development of current leaders and cultivation of future leaders. A more defined charter and outcomes focus will be established by the team.
- **Board Priorities:** John reported that 'Leadership Development' and a 'Feasibility Study for Sanctuary Expansion' were the two key priorities identified by the board at its last meeting.
- **Next Process Steps:** Dale reviewed a proposed board strategic planning process. Key questions, agenda and timelines were reviewed. Segments of future board meetings will be reserved to discuss key planning issues. The board's work, including a retreat, will lead to a board approved plan to be presented to the congregation at the 2017 annual meeting. UUCS annual growth rate of 7.6% (since 2010) was noted as the underlying need for a plan.

7. **Committee Assessment Update:** Lynda reviewed progress in collecting data on core UUCS committees. Dale noted that many functions of UUCS are coordinator led and not under the purview of standing committees. A matrix report summarizing committee identity, purpose and function is being compiled for the board.

8. **Lakewood Ranch Planning Workshop:** John reported on an upcoming Member/Volunteer event (10/29) designed to review UU's of Lakewood Ranch mission and plan for growth. Lakewood Ranch is continuing to extend an invitation for all UUCS members to visit during the current church year.

9. **Discover UU:** Lynda reported that Saturday's event is booked to capacity. The next date for this popular event is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 10 (9am).

10. **Next Meeting Tuesday, October 18, 2016 at 7pm.**

**Adjournment:** Charles adjourned the meeting at 8:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
John Yoder  
Board Secretary