

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF SARASOTA

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting Minutes January 15, 2019

Attending: Ward Pallotta, Dale Anderson, Ava Whaley, Sharron Howard, Ed Loomis, Anne McFarlane, Bob Kester, Dick Happy, Mary Lou Keller

Staff: Roberta Druif, Roger Fritts, Catherine Bonner

1. Welcome & Check In: Ward opened the meeting at 7pm. Members shared stories of what is going well in their lives. Ward read a story called "How to Grow Good Corn" about the power of collectivity, how we are all connected and the fact that none of us really wins until we all win.

2. Review/Approval of Minutes: The minutes of December 18, 2018 were approved as submitted.

Administrative Reports

3. Finance/Treasurer's Report Dick Happy summarized the Finance Committee meeting on January 10.

The Finance Committee did a first review of the proposed 2019-2020 budget at its meeting. There was consensus that the Committee needed to pare down the budget before presenting it to the Board and ultimately to the congregation. Roberta will review for possible savings and report back at the next month's Finance Committee meeting.

The Finance Committee recommended to the Board that instead of imposing a fee for Adult Programs, committee chairs should ask for voluntary donations to help cover the cost of overhead.

4. Religious Education: Catherine reported on a well-attended meeting with parents to focus on better interaction of RE families and the general congregation. Various ideas were discussed, including pairing RE families and others for social events, called Making Connections. Other activities include having RE children and families maintain the rock garden at the church entrance, moving coffee service closer to the playground to improve interaction and having a presence at VegFest with a booth staffed by members.

Old Business

- 5. Mission Statement:** Mary Lou reported that a meeting held to create a new church mission statement had only three non-Board members in attendance. She will provide further direction at the February Board meeting based on attendance and interest at her second meeting.
- 6. Ministerial Search:** Dale and Roger updated the Board on the Ministerial Search, which has identified one very strong candidate and two others, one local. The successful candidate will be part-time and year round. Mary Lou will replace Claudia on the Search Committee.
- 7. Logo:** Ava has agreed to lead a small committee on logo usage. The goal will be to create a multi-year plan, together with estimated costs, on making our logo usage consistent throughout the church. Ed Loomis will serve on the committee. One or two other church members will be invited to participate. A usage "manual" will be created.
- 8. Policy and Procedures:** Dale distributed copies of the Policy Manual and asked Board members to review recommended changes on all but the personnel section for the next meeting. Church member Christine Sensenig has been hired to guide us on the revision of our personnel manual.
- 9. Safety and Security:** There will be forum about church security on March 3 to get a feel for members' thoughts on various security initiatives. Our insurance company will be asked about our liability as a church. The issue of Board responsibility was raised.
- 10. ADA Compliance:** Ed reported that the ADA assessment is complete and that we are mostly in compliance. Most immediate are modifying our doors and bathrooms. The cost will be determined. Other accommodations are having more space for wheelchairs in the sanctuary, more handicapped parking spaces and restroom bars. The committee will present an implementation plan and costs at the February meeting.
- 11. Serendipity Auction:** Ward reported that, based on an updated report from Karen Bush, Auction Chair, we are on track to make budget (\$30K) for the auction. Trends indicate fewer lunches, dinners and out-of-town vacation places and more tangible goods. A full debriefing report will be submitted in February.
- 12. Black Lives UU:** After discussions with the UUA, Ward and Roger are comfortable supporting this group. Social Justice will match a share-the-plate donation, accepted on MLK day, up to \$1000.

New Business

- 13. Board Vacancy:** Claudia's resignation has left a Board vacancy. Ward asked Bill Geller for recommendations. It was agreed that the person would serve the remainder of Claudia's term plus a new term. The possibility of leaving the spot open until the next Board term was raised.
- 14. Adult Education:** Roger requested that Adult Education have a committee that would manage the number of programs, how the programs are publicized and criteria for program topics. It was suggested that programs be limited to 20 to allow space for rentals and other church activities. Anne McFarlane agreed to be the Board liaison to work with those currently involved with this endeavor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

The next Board Meeting will be held February 19, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

Ava R Whaley

