

## UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF SARASOTA

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Meeting Minutes – May 23, 2017

**Attending:** Ward Pallotta, Mary Lou Keller, John Yoder, Lynda Hill, Ava Whaley, Dale Anderson, Anne McFarlane

**Staff:** Roger Fritts, Roberta Druif

**Excused:** Susan Cook-Hallock, Claudia Holtzclaw, Bill Payton, Charles Lee

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1. **Welcome/Check-In:** Ward called the meeting to order at 7pm. He read from *Size Transition in UU Congregations*, dealing with the challenges of change in congregations and in life. Members shared life happenings and travel experiences.
  2. **Review/Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of April 18, 2017 were approved without change.
  3. **Administrative Reports**
    - **President:** Ward led a discussion on a reading he sent prior to the Board meeting: *Size Really Does Make a Difference*, outlining four types of congregations by service attendance; not membership. UUCS falls into The Program Church category during off-peak season; The Corporate Church during season. Because of our steady growth, there is a strong need to anticipate the needs of a larger church, particularly regarding staffing. The Board agreed that there needs to be a core group that pushes through staffing changes proactively. Finally, on the subject of change, Ward reviewed “Leading for Change”, behaviors that make change more acceptable to a congregation.
    - **Minister:** Roger has been asked to dedicate four Sundays a year to the LWR campus. A **motion was made, seconded and approved for Roger to give the sermon in LWR on October 8.** Up to three additional days will be voted on next month when the full Board is present.
  4. **Old Business**
    - **Strategic Plan Update:** Dale Anderson reviewed the status of the strategic plan, confirming the lead, goal date and status of the initiative. It was agreed that quantitative goals should be used as learning tools. A discussion of our Mission Statement resulted in several wordings. Ava, John and Dale will draft 2-3 versions of a mission statement for distribution to the Board, Committee Chairs and church membership.
      - **Policies and Procedures:** Lynda Hill is leading a review of church documents. Input from the Board is needed on what direction the church wants to take and what people are looking for in a church as this will

determine policies and procedures related to attendance and membership. Future Board meetings will approve recommendations for each policy, with final approval by the Board. Ann McFarlane, Claudia Holtzclaw and Dale Anderson agreed to work with Lynda to review Personnel Policies.

- **Lakewood Ranch Update:** John Yoder submitted a UUA grant for a third year of support. LWR has \$6000 in unspent funds from 2016-2017 and wants to apply them for years 2017-18. He received invaluable feedback from a UUA contact: the importance of small groups, having quantitative goals and current statistics. The initial application was modified to reflect these criteria. The LWR church is close to breaking even on their operating expenses.
  - **Director of Finance and Operations:** Roberta reported that the Pledge Campaign is going well with 93% of our budgeted goal pledged and 86% of our membership and friends committed. Voting membership count is 516, plus 79 friends. 716 people receive our Visitor's Newsletter each week. Roberta reported that 13 members will attend GA in New Orleans, with ten as voting delegates. Four ministers and staff members will also attend. **A motion to approve the delegates was passed unanimously.**
- 5. Adjourn:** Ward adjourned the meeting at 8:55 pm. The next scheduled board meeting will be Tuesday June 20, 2017.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ava Whaley