

NITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF SARASOTA

BOARD OF TRUSTEES Meeting Minutes – November 21, 2017

Attending: Mary Lou Keller, Ava Whaley, John Yoder, Ward Pallotta, Bill Payton, Charles Lee

Staff: Susan Cook-Hallock, Roberta Druif, Roger Fritts, Judy McGrath (Actg Recording Secretary)

Excused: Claudia Holtzclaw, Anne McFarlane, Lynda Hill, Dale Anderson

Guests: Rev. Levente Lazar, Rev. Erika Demeter, Lajos Biro, Lajos Tofalvi from our Transylvanian Partner Church, Mary Fran Raynault

1. **Welcome/Check-In:** Ward called the meeting to order at 7 pm. From the UUA website, he presented the benefits of church partnerships and read a traditional Transylvanian Blessing and Meditation.
2. Ward then asked members to discuss their individual religious journeys to UU. Transylvanian guests also shared their religious backgrounds and explained the composition of the UU churches in Transylvania.
3. **Review/Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the October 17, 2017 were approved as amended.
4. **Administrative Reports**

Finance/Operations: Roberta mentioned the Flea Market, November 18. Final numbers are not in, but she feels it did well. She is meeting with Joe Chapman, the auditor, who will present the audit at the Board meeting on December 12. The Executive Committee meets December 7 for an extended session to work on 2018 Stewardship goals.

Finance: Bill added that it's time to focus on 2017 budget adjustments, if any are needed. He asked Board members to volunteer to serve as collection counters. Charles Lee volunteered.

Minister: Roger believes the church is very healthy. The visit of the partners is going well with the goals of increasing member interest in visiting Transylvania, showing visitors how our church functions and increasing member tolerance of Christian UUs. The visitors see our church as an example of what their future might become.

President: Ward asked for the Board's endorsement of the Social Justice Committee's diversity workshops that will start in February. **A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to endorse the diversity workshop program.** The Executive Committee will develop a 2018 calendar of Board responsibilities.

5. Open Business:

Ministerial transition and planning/Staffing issues: The Board meeting with Connie Goodbread went well and she made it clear that our church will be in charge of everything associated with Ministerial transition. Roger suggested that a plan should be in place by January so it can be included in the 2018 budget and Stewardship campaign.

Important dates: Dec 7-Finance committee and Executive committee; Dec 12-Board meeting with audit presentation; Feb 24/25 - Board retreat.
Feb 4-Silent Auction; Feb 18-Stewardship kickoff; Jan 21-UUSC Vice President and Chief Program Officer Rachel Freed speaks from the pulpit and Jan 28-UUA president Susan Frederick-Gray will be in the pulpit;

6. **Adjourn**

After wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, Ward adjourned the meeting at 8:25 pm. The next scheduled Board meeting will be Tuesday, December 12, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy McGrath/Ava Whaley