

Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota
Board of Trustees Minutes
February 15, 2022

Board Members present via Zoom: Catherine Bonner, Terri Holsinger, Dale Anderson, Terrie-Anne Bajorek, Ron Hertenstein, Bill Payton, Carl Morrison, Nina Tortelli, Bob Clapp, Mary Lou Keller, Heather Massa

Board members Absent: none

Staff present via Zoom: Reverend Doug Wadkins, Director of Finance and Operations (DFO) Roberta Druif; Director of Religious Education Catherine Bonner

Also present via Zoom: Mike Brooks, Bob Kester

Welcome and Reading: President Dale Anderson opened the meeting at 7 pm.

Terrie-Ann Bajorek gave the reading from *The Dalai Lama Cat*.

Minutes from January 18, 2022 Board meeting (attached to meeting agenda): Nina Tortelli moved to approve, Mary Lou Keller 2nd. All in favor.

Consent Agenda- Search Committee, Rick Sandler

Rick is in height of the search. Possibly have potential meeting to affirm a settled minister in April. Mary Maldonado reported they are having direct interviews with candidates. Annual meeting is March 27.

New Board of Directors: running Yolanda Stevens, Jim Raudabaugh, Mike Brooks, Mary Lou Keller

Board Goals #1: Support Interim Minister Work: Rev Doug Wadkins

Doug Wadkins summary of next 5 months. Some plans are fluid depending on how search comes about. Perhaps the candidate may want interaction with members? Top item for Doug is trying to sort through and meet with various constituencies whom Budd served with. He needs to get a sense of what is most important. What is especially important for a minister to do and duties for a lay person. Work with the leaders to aid the settled minister. The candidates have all asked and want to understand how things work at UUCS and how they will work with the board. Be clear about the current governance and going into future. Looking at how best to prepare ourselves in anticipation of the new settled minister. Board and staff are the single most important aspect of beginning the relationship. Understanding how to deal with Covid in the next year is also important, differently than this last year. Need a transition taskforce-including board and search committee members. Discussion followed.

DFO / Treasurer's Report, Robert Druif, Bill Payton. February Financial Report.

Roberta responded to Carl Morrison question on deficit. We now do expect to come out with a deficit associated with our current fiscal year, we've received 95% of our pledges, 88% of our total income. We have gotten some pledges in, its too early, but today the pledges show that many are increasing their pledges.

We've had issues with our checking account, compromised and our account has been frozen, and opening a new bank account. Need 2 motions:

1. Finance Committee recommends UUCS establish separate account with BoA, for electronic transactions and Roberta, Bill and another member meet for streamlined security procedures.

Motion Mary Lou Keller, 2nd Bill Payton, all approved

2. 2nd Motion: Roberta and Bill are bank account signers. They feel strongly they need other signers on the account. Roberta & Bill suggests Michael Brooks, Mary Lou Keller and Terri Holsinger should be added.

Motion Bill Payton moved, Nina Tortelli 2nd, all in favor.

Board Goals: #4 – Racial Justice Program

8th Principle Endorsement recommended for a congregational vote. Nina Tortelli and team worked on increasing awareness. Thanked Ron Hertenstein for his in-depth research and information. Proposed Motion: send letter to UUA Article 2 Commission to a congregational vote, "UUCS supports inclusion of the 8th Principle being incorporated into the revision of the principles". Discussion followed.

Motion Terri Holsinger, 2nd Bill Payton, all in favor.

Board Goals #3, Bob Kester

Safety committee Covid-19 community statistics and reopening recommendations. FL is rapidly decreasing, 70,000 cases last week in state, way down. Positivity 10-14%; vaccine rate 69.2 statewide, Manatee/Sarasota County in high transmission range. SMH statistics, today had 126 in patients, 145 yesterday (previously 200). Unvaccinated are 58% hospitalized below national level. NY/NJ stats-positivity rate under 5% about 4-6 weeks ahead of us on the curve. Spoke with Dana Keller, health statistician. His reading of masking, outdoor is not much safer than indoors if wearing good masks. Efficacy of KN95 masks is so high that indoor services make sense. Discussed reopening on March 6 requiring KN/N95 masks and social distancing. Proposed motion: ask Safety Committee to put a plan together for safety measures announced to the congregation and prepare for the 2 wine & cheese events and have a message in Contact.

Motion: Mary Lou Keller and Nina Tortelli 2nd. All in favor.

Board Goals #8, Mary Lou Keller/Dale Anderson. Church Mission Revision, Status of proposed mission statement revision – recommend adoption, revision, postponement? No motion needed to postpone. On hiatus until settled minister arrives.

Church Strategic Planning 2022-23.

Set date for a Board and Staff "SWOT" session for development of the 2022-'23 Goals. Meet in person in Lexow Board Retreat 9 am-1 pm. Continue Zoom for Board Meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Submitted by Terri Holsinger, Board Secretary