

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF SARASOTA

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting Minutes – March 21, 2023

Board Members Present: Bill Payton - President, Mary Lou Keller - Vice President, Mike Brooks - Treasurer, Nina Tortelli, Yolanda Stevens, Terrie Anne Bajorek, Heather Massa, Carl Morrison, Jim Raudabaugh, Rev. Jay Wolin (Adjunct member),

Board Members Absent: Terri Holsinger - Secretary

Adjunct Board Members Present:

Rev. Jay Wolin, Roberta Druif - Dir. of Finance and Operations,

Others Present: Klaus Obermeit, Katherine Bonner - Dir. of Religious Education, John Yoder, Karen Bush

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1. **Welcome:** Bill Payton welcomed the group and called the meeting to order at 7pm.. Rev. Jay lit the chalice. All present checked in.
 2. **Review/Approval of Minutes:** Karen Bush noted under the agenda sub-title Name Change, the 2nd option mentioned should have read 'Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota'.
Motion: With this correction noted for the record, the meeting minutes were approved as submitted.
 3. **Administrative Reports**
 - **Minister:**
 - ✓ Minister's monthly report of ministerial activity and attachments is available for review (see separate tab under Board Minutes).
 - ✓ Jay noted his recent attendance at the Sarasota Hospital Board meeting speaking in support of the good work done by our local, publicly owned health care system.
 - ✓ Invited Board members to open Sunday service using scripted text.
 - ✓ Proposed starting discussion on updating UUCS Mission Statement in August.
 - ✓ Proposed Board member and Racial Justice Team facilitated small groups to discuss 8th Principle, name change.
 - **Treasurer / Director of Finance and Operations:**
 - ✓ Mike reported the annual budget as approved by the Board would be submitted for approval at the Annual Meeting on Sunday.
 - ✓ Roberta noted that 2/3 of all church members have submitted their new pledges with an average increase of 6%.
 - ✓ Roberta thanked the Board for their approval of Budget 23-24 at the special Board meeting on March 6. She then reported that unspent funds from the current fiscal year are earmarked for a new sound system in the sanctuary up to \$15,000 as approved by the Board in the February meeting.
 - ✓ Roberta thanked Heather for her service as a Board member and for accepting the lead role in this year's Flea Market.

4. **Meetings in Review and Planned**

- **Annual Meeting:** Discussion ensued regarding the scheduled time for the meeting to begin and the method for designating member check-in and voting. Consensus was reached for:
 - ✓ **Start Time:** 11:50am
 - ✓ **Check-In:** To occur prior to service and afterwards for late-comers
 - ✓ **Voting:** Members to be designated by use of a blue card.
 - ✓ **Parliamentarian:** Dale Anderson
 - ✓ **Name Change and 8th Principle:** Deferred to later date in year.
- **Town Hall:** Overall positive feedback
- **UUA Annual Meeting:** Discussion ensued regarding UUCS delegates voting responsibilities, Article 2 content, format of General Sessions and review of potential Delegates.

5. **Board Goals – Updates/Progress**

- **Technology/Social Media:** New sanctuary lighting and sound system planned. Temporary new pulpit lighting installed to good reviews.
- **Diversity/Equity and Inclusion:**
 - ✓ **Equity Florida** - Bill noted this event celebrating Gay Pride to be held at UUCS on the following Monday (3/27/23).
 - ✓ **Essay Contest** - Student participants in this Equal Justice Project to present their work Thursday, 3/30/23 @ 6pm. In the sanctuary. A reception will take place from 6:30 to 7:00 in the Courtyard, with an awards ceremony (in the sanctuary) to follow at 7pm..
 - ✓ **New College** - Discussion ensued regarding members of the New College community drawing closer to UUCS because of our support during their recent political turmoil.
 - ✓ **Equal Justice Project** - Noted as true partnership with a community group.
- **Music:**
 - ✓ Don Bryn accepted position as Choir Director to congregational acclaim.
 - ✓ Next round of recruitment for Sunday performance musicians underway.

6. **New Business**

- **Precautionary Principle:** After discussion of Green Committee's endorsement and support; **Motion made, seconded and passed unanimously for UUCS to promote that all products (chemicals) used in the church's operations do no harm to the environment, animals, or humans.**
- **Retreat/Visioning Workshop:** Bill proposed a 3-5 hour workshop for this purpose to be held in April. Jay to circulate a 'Doodle' for Board members to identify their preferred meeting dates.
- **Meetings Scheduled:**
 - ✓ **Executive Committee Meeting: April 11, noon**
 - ✓ **Board of Trustees: April 18, 7pm**

7. **Adjournment:** Before closing the meeting, Bill acknowledged the Board's good work over the last year. He recognized and thanked Heather for her service as a Board member over the last 3 years. **Meeting Adjourned at 8:30pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

John Yoder