

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF SARASOTA**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Meeting Minutes May 15, 2018**

**Attending:** Ward Pallotta, Dale Anderson, Bill Payton, Ava Whaley, Sharron Howard, Claudia Holtzclaw, Ed Loomis, Anne McFarlane, Bob Kester

**Excused:** Mary Lou Keller, Susan Cook-Hallock

**Staff:** Roger Fritts, Roberta Druif, Tracey Moore (Administrative)

**Guest Attendee:** Will Newton, Executive Director of SURE

**1. Welcome & Check In:** Ward opened the meeting at 7pm. Members shared life events and Ward read Article 1 of the church bylaws, reminding Board members of our covenant and mission.

**2. Review/Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of April 17, 2018 were approved as written

**3. New Business:** Ward introduced Will Newton and invited him to respond to questions proposed by the Board about SURE's members, finances and fees, successes and challenges. Several members of the Social Justice committee spoke in support of our joining SURE; as did several members speak against it. After much discussion and making clear that the commitment would be on a year-by-year basis, **a motion was made, seconded and approved to take the membership request to the full congregation for a vote in the fall.** A Forum and a sermon on SURE will precede the vote.

**Black Lives Matter:** Sharron Howard gave a report from the UUA General Assembly Revival in Kansas City where Black UUs were able to share their experiences and their challenges and forge connections with each other. They discussed ways to add diversity to UU congregations. The Board encouraged Sharron to share their insights and suggestions to achieve that end.

**SWOT Analysis:** Dale Anderson presented a summary of the SWOT analysis gleaned from church members and the recent Board retreat. He then led a review of the four staffing options discussed at the retreat for hiring both a second minister and an RE Director. The Board agreed to base hours and responsibilities on the talent available, with a full-time Minister of Congregational Life and a part-time (10 hrs/week) RE Director being optimal. Second choice is a part-time Associate Minister of Congregational Life and an RE Director 30 hrs/week.

Ward reported that Susan Cook-Hallock will be honored at the service May 20, 2018.

**Finance Report:** Bill Payton recommended that the hiring of the Assistant Minister be delayed until January 1, 2019 to reflect a possible budget shortfall. He also recommended that the Board approve a fundraiser in the Fall

to support our partnership church's educational fund. **Motions were made, seconded and passed unanimously.** Bill announced that he will be leaving both the Board and the Finance committee in early December due to family travel plans to England for several months. The by-laws do not require a congregational vote to replace Board or Committee members. Ward will consult with the Nominating Committee.

5. **The next Board meeting will be held June 26.** This is a change from our regular schedule to accommodate Roberta's absence. There will be no Board meeting in July.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.



