

Minutes for the Monthly Meeting of the Board of Trustees Unitarian Universalist Church of St. Petersburg May 9, 2012

Opening/Leadership Worship

The meeting was opened by president Teresa Kelly at 7:05pm.

Board members and officers present at meeting opening: Teresa Kelly, Margie Manning, Laurie Clement, Bill Maguire, Greg Burton, Jim Culver, and Michael Pohl. Absent was McKell Moorhead.

Kenn Hurto led the opening worship.

Approval Of Agenda

Teresa moved Kenn's items up in the agenda out of consideration for Kenn's time. Margie moved to approve the revised agenda. Greg seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

Review Of Minutes

Margie moved to approve the April 11 minutes. Greg seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

Margie moved to approved the April 22 special meeting minutes. Greg seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

Review of Action Items

- **Laurie** distributed material about Wes Stevens for the congregational meeting.
- **Margie** distributed budget scenarios to the congregation.

Treasurer's Report

Margie presented the Treasurer's Report. Highlights:

- May end the fiscal year with a small surplus without tapping into last year's budget. This should give us a cushion for hiring a Restorative Consultant.
- UU St. Pete paid our program fund Fair Share for the eighth consecutive year.

Greg relayed compliments from his CPA partner to Margie for her excellent work as Treasurer.

Consulting Minister's Report

Jim distributed copies of his report.

Email Guidelines Review

Margie suggested that a small group review the guidelines, consider social media, and see what needs updating. Margie, Michael, and Greg volunteered. Several comments from attendees and BOT members:

- Don McNary posited that the circumstances of the past months were exceptional and that the guidelines were not relevant.
- Margie responded that while the exchanges may have been helpful for some, they were very hurtful for her.
- Greg noted that if there are more opportunities for in-person open dialogues (e.g., Q&A at the monthly luncheons), that may help diffuse the need for email exchanges.
- Laurie asked, Where do we go when there is general dissatisfaction?
- Teresa urged all NOT to forward and NOT to bcc.
- Jim asked to reverse the "thou shalt not" feel of the guidelines and give it a positive spin.

Restorative Consultant

Kenn gave background on the process. Proposal is to hire Susanne Nazian for two weeks and two Sunday services. While here, she will interview the congregation in groups and one-on-one, get a handle on the source of the negativity, and present her findings and recommendations.

Margie noted there's a large percentage of the population who is not here in the summer. Kenn responded that he will talk with Susanne about reaching out to those who have gone north.

Kenn noted that developmental ministers typically begin September 1, but that is not a requirement. He also noted that the pool of candidates is very small.

Margie noted that she is committed to accepting the recommendation of the selection committee, and asked of Greg and Laurie if they would be doing the same.

Greg moved to hire Susanne Nazian as our Restorative Consultant. Laurie seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

Selection Committee

Ian O'Hara presented an update on the selection committee's attempts to find a development minister for a minimum of three years with the possibility of extension. Don asked if he was willing to have marketing meetings to present candidates, and speaking for himself Ian said yes. Laurie asked whether timelines could be extended; Ian said yes. Kenn reiterated that the committee should feel free to reject candidates; there is no set deadline for hiring. Greg asked how the committee is presenting the possibility that this could be a longer-term ministry. Ian responded that that's the whole premise: three year ministry, review, if we're a fit for each other, let's continue.

Teresa asked about the committee's budget request of \$500. Per Kenn's recommendation, Ian pared back request from \$500 to \$200.

Greg moved to provide \$200 for the search committee out of the Board Discretionary Fund. Margie seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

Don asked is it would be difficult to sell ourselves. Kenn said that "word has gone out about us," and we would be asked some very hard questions about the email exchanges over the past few weeks.

Bookkeeper For Pastoral Care Fund

Teresa asked for nominations for a bookkeeper for the Pastoral Care fund. Joan Barclay volunteered. Teresa so appointed Joan as bookkeeper.

Designated Fund For 100th Anniversary Celebration

The Board discussed establishing a temporary fund, only in existence through the 100th Anniversary Celebration. Not a budgeted fund; doesn't pull from pledges; contributions are voluntary. Margie suggested any surplus go to endowment. Greg suggested using surplus as a seed for a building capital campaign.

Margie moved to establish a designated fund for the 100th Anniversary Celebration that will expire January 31, 2015, with any leftover money going to the endowment. Teresa seconded. Greg opposed; all others approved. Motion carried.

Pride Contribution

Per Teresa, the Cluster is asking for a \$150 contribution for Pride. There is \$359.74 remaining in the GLBT fund. Teresa suggested we consider replenishing this fund and live up to our commitments as a welcoming congregation.

Laurie moved to contribute \$150 for Pride. Bill seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

Action: **Teresa** will make out the request for the \$150 check for our Pride contribution.

Letter Of Agreement For R.E. Professional

Teresa reviewed the letter of agreement for our R.E. Professional. It is the same as last year's agreement except with a \$0.50/hour increase.

Margie moved to approve the letter of agreement for our R.E. Professional. Greg seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

Delegates For General Assembly

Teresa has not received requests to be a delegate. Last opportunity will be the June meeting. Margie noted that there are opportunities to join the choir.

Action: **Teresa** will send out one more announcement to the congregation.

Summer Worship

Margie has resigned as chair of worship ministry. Dorothy will coordinate the summer services. We have several volunteers for speakers. Simpler format: order of service will be one page; no choir or anthem; held in Gilmour Hall. (If we have a guest speaker may move the service to the sanctuary.) Margie noted that we need to cultivate leaders as much as possible.

Advocacy/Collaboration Issues

Review Of Action Items

Public Comment

Adjournment

Teresa adjourned the meeting at 8:46pm.

Minutes approved June 13, 2012, by the Board of Trustees.