

Unitarian Universalist Church of St. Petersburg
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees
March 12, 2014

Present

Board Members: Greg Burton, President; Jane Fanning, Dani Skrzypek, Reggie Craig, Lori Price, Marcia Piacentino, and Katy Korb (ex-officio),

Absent: Ian O'Hara, Albrecht McCue (ex-officio)

Clerk to the Board: Keevy McAlavy

Guests: Barbara Rowell, Pierre Williams, Jessica Peters, Jim Peters, Dale Potter, Milagros Padilla, Penny Duff, Cynthia Patterson, Dave Coale, Nick Wheeler (office manager), Tamara Lush (splinters), Deb Robinson and Sid Jabrael.

1. Greg Burton opened the meeting at 7:05 PM
2. Jane moved that the agenda be approved. Dani seconded and the motion passed.
3. Marcia moved to approve the minutes from the February meeting. Dani seconded and the motion passed.
4. Developmental Minister's Report
Katy reported that a Cluster Renewal Service will be held at the Clearwater UU Church on March 27th at 7:30pm. Our music director, Nic Filzen will lead the choir. The UUA Moderator, Jim Key, will be leading the service. Katy encourages all to attend.

Katy reported that a memorial service for the victims of the Dozier School for Boys will be held at our church on Palm Sunday, April 13th at 6:30pm. Some survivors will be in attendance.

Katy reported that an interfaith gathering will be held at our church on the evening of Tuesday May 6th. This will be the sixth such meeting, each one held at a different church. A dinner will be provided afterward.

5. Treasurer's Report
Greg reported that two longtime friends of UUSP have informed us that they no longer wish to attend the church and will not be paying their pledge of \$900 this year. Greg reported that Nancy will be researching the church's accrued 5% contribution from the endowment. \$64000 has already been pulled from the endowment for this fiscal year. The church has a \$7000 credit due for money it paid for an engineering study to have the AC system replaced. Greg further reported that the budget shortfall for the next fiscal year is as expected and believes there will be no more surprises.

A \$13000 gift request has been made by the UUA and the church has budgeted \$1,000. Katy stated she had received a call from them and had spoken to them about this.

Dani reported there were several weekly deposits in the \$3000 range lately. The 10% canvass challenge was not successful, however the people who did step up and increased their pledges should be acknowledged. So far the total pledged amount for next year

was at \$52000.

Dani reported that \$500 in giftcards were sold last month of which \$35 benefits the church. Dani suggested that bequests and memorials need more acknowledgment as well. She will explore the feasibility and cost of plaques and of the peace pole Reggie suggested.

6. President's Report

Greg denied the rumors circulating that the church is disbanding. The church was able to avoid a financial crisis for five years due to a gift by Pat McGivern. Greg suggested that the church take a 4-6 week breather during the summer while the AC system is being replaced.

Greg reported that Connie Goodbread and her two partners in the Smart Church Program are willing to lead a series of small group ministries at the church as part of the Smart Church program. Greg reported that this is not to be seen as a savior for the church but rather a tailor made solution to our interpersonal problems. Dave and Karen Coale volunteered to pay for the first weekend of the program estimated to cost \$800. Dave said this is a gift to the church and he and Karen have no expectations and it is not to be seen as a challenge donation. Katy said the church should be paying for the program and not individual members.

Reggie moved to proceed with engaging Connie Goodbread, or others from the UUA, in the Smart Church program. Marcia seconded and the motion passed. Dani suggested people could support participation in the Smart Church Program by adding to their pledge payments occasionally.

7. Canvass Report

Cynthia Patterson reported that 27 out of 70 pledge cards have been returned leaving 43 not yet returned. She suggested cottage teas to get more pledge cards returned. She will be hosting one herself on Sunday March 16th. She then went through the remaining envelopes and distributed them to those present who knew the people or were willing to contact them, either by phone, by hosting a tea, or other method.

8. Board Hosts

March 16th	Reggie
March 23rd	Jane
March 30th	Dani
April 6th	Greg
April 13th	Marcia

9. Membership Recording Procedure

Dani wrote a plan for keeping the membership list up to date and accurate. Jane edited it and moved that this be put into place as a new policy. Lori seconded and the motion passed.

10. Building and Grounds Report

Reggie reported that the contractor has been made aware that the church will have a vote on the 16th to approve paying for the work on the AC system.

11. Worship Committee

Penny reported that the church should expect a large turn out for the memorial service planned for the victims of the Dozier School for Boys. Katy hopes for a simple memorial service and not a circus.

12. Office Manager's Report

Nick reported that he needs help managing building use for weddings. Jesica volunteered to help.

13. Religious Education

Jesica put out a request for volunteers to help out with the children on Sundays.

14. General Assembly

Jane reported that GA "Love" t-shirts are now available for purchase. GA will be June 25th - 29th in Providence Rhode Island. Jane invites anyone who would like to camp on her property (30 miles from Providence, near the Atlantic ocean beaches). Dale Potter, Milagros Padilla, Pierre Williams and Katy all reported that they would be attending GA this summer.

15. Vote on the AC System

Dani reported there are currently 76 voting members and 46 would be needed for a quorum. 12 absentee ballots have been mailed and 4 had been returned so far. The vote will be by written ballot and will be anonymous. Only voting members should be allowed to speak. Reggie suggested that Lori assist with hosting the meeting and Greg agreed.

Greg appointed Jim Peters and Nick Wheeler to count the vote. Dave Coale volunteered to observe the counting.

16. Nominating Committee

Jesica requested a third person to join the committee since Teresa Kelly was unable to. Greg suggested Marilyn Barber and said he would speak with her next Sunday.

Greg adjourned the meeting at 9:21 PM.

Action Items:

1. Nick will upload the Smart Church file to the website

Respectfully submitted,
Keivy McAlavy, Clerk to the Board