

Unitarian Universalist Church of St. Petersburg
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees
June 3rd, 2014

Present

Board Members: Jane Fanning, President pro tempore; Reggie Craig, Ian O'Hara, Cynthia Patterson, Dani Skrzypek, Lori Price and Katy Korb (ex-officio)

Clerk to the Board: Keevy McAlavy

Guests: Arty Glove, Jim Peters, Pierre Williams, Raven Peters, Jesica Peters, Dale Potter, Milagros Padilla, Barbara Riddle-Dvorak and Laurie Clement

1. Jane Fanning opened the meeting at 7:00 PM with the acknowledgment that this would be a continuation of the May 14th meeting. Therefore the agenda would not need to be re-approved.
2. Jane acknowledged several of the new incoming board members for the next fiscal year including Barbara Riddle-Dvorak, Laurie Clement and Jim Peters.
3. President pro tempore's Report
Jane reported that she had met with Lori Price and Laurie Clement to begin the process of transitioning to the new board. She reported that the endowment had made scheduled payments to the church for the months of April, May and June.

Jane reported that the Scope newsletter currently only has two people on the physical mailing list. Due to staffing issues the church was unable to publish the May issue. Jesica stated that the two members who were receiving the printed version of Scope were able to receive it electronically as well. Jane urged the board to consider discontinuing the printed version of Scope or eliminating the newsletter entirely. Hopefully the final decision will be made at the upcoming June 11th board meeting.

Jane reported that the church's proposed new mission statement was not voted upon at the last Annual Meeting. This needs to be approved by the congregation. A solution needs to be discussed at the next board meeting. The proposed new mission statement is: Our mission is to be an inclusive, evolving religious community that inspires spiritual and intellectual growth to make our world a better place.

4. Church Delegates to the UUA General Assembly in Providence RI
Jane reported that the church is allowed to send two delegates and one alternate to the General Assembly this year. The delegates will present a report to the church on August 24th.

Ian moved that the church elect Morgan Gresham, Milagros Padilla as the delegates and Jane Fanning to be the alternate. Cynthia seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Ian noted that in addition to the delegates and alternate the church would be further represented by Katy Korb, Marisa Pohl, Michael Pohl, Pierre Williams and Dale Potter.

5. Adoption of new TIAA-CREF Retirement Fund Rules

Laurie reported that in order to remain in the program the church would need to officially adopt new rules as required by the UUA. The new rules would need to be voted on and approved by the board by June 30th as they take effect July 1st. The new rules only apply to those employees of the church who work under the UUA guidelines at least half-time in a calendar year regardless of whether those hours were worked at this church or another UUA church.

The rules require the church to make three decisions:

- 1) whether or not to automatically enroll all employees
- 2) choose a base contribution level of 5% or higher (UUA recommends 10%)
- 3) whether or not to have an additional employer matching contribution

Dani moved to adopt the new rules at the minimum 5% level, with no auto-enrollment and without the additional employer matching contribution. Cynthia seconded. The motion passed unanimously. (Ian will add a note of clarification here)

6. New Bank Signatures for Florida Bank

Jane reported that new signatures will be required for the church's bank account due to membership changes in the Board of Trustees. Greg Burton and Karen Coale will be removed and Jane Fanning, Laurie Clement and Lori Price will be added. Ian O'hara is currently the interim treasurer. Michael Pohl will remain.

7. Building and Grounds Report

Reggie reported that he has a contract ready to be signed for the AC project. The church's lawyer added a provision requiring a performance bond in case the contractor is unable to complete the project. This new requirement will cost the church approximately an additional \$5000. Additional money has been set aside by the endowment to cover additional costs like this. The contract requires a 20% down payment and further payments to be made upon work milestones.

Jane reported that a completion date had also been added to the contract. Jane signed the contract.

Reggie reported that the committee will be meeting on Thursday and will discuss the search for a new custodian after Matt was let go. Currently Jessica Peter's is filling in a custodian.

8. Removal of old equipment etc...

Jane reported that there is now a large amount of old equipment in the building no longer being used. She said that Nick Wheeler had started on a list of the equipment and had some ideas of how to dispose of it. She will discuss this further at the June 11th meeting.

9. Church Rentals

Jessica reported that she is having difficulties in renting out the building to groups other than non profits due to insurance liability issues. Wedding rentals are not a problem as they are covered by the church's current insurance. She said that clean up and scheduling conflicts were also becoming issues. Dani noted that all requests for ongoing

rentals should be approved by the Board of Trustees. Jane and Jesica will meet to lay out the guidelines and policies for rentals of church properties.

10. Ad-hoc committee #2 on Fall / Winter Ministerial Options

Jane reported that the first Ad-hoc committee had completed its assignment and that at the April meeting the board had voted to approve a follow up committee to investigate how to implement the recommendations.

Milagros reported that the recommendation of the first Ad-hoc committee was that the church could only afford a half time minister that would be split into two 1/4 time positions: pastoral care at 1/4 time and another 1/4 time minister focused on sermons. The remaining Sundays would be filled with lay led and guest speakers.

Cynthia reported that she had agreed to hold a meeting for the Ad-hoc committee #2 but would not be able to be its chair. She foresees two tasks for the new committee: a review of the previous committee's recommendation and determine how contractual / supplemental part time ministerial positions would work. The first meeting would be held June 4th and would include representatives from the Worship Committee and Religious Education.

Ian suggested the committee use a framework of a five week calendar to plan services with the 1st, 2nd, 3rd Sunday's etc.. as a known quantity so the congregation will know ahead of time what to expect for a given Sunday.

Lori mentioned that the Social Justice committee had volunteered to cover one Sunday a month with speakers. She was concerned that the Ad-hoc #2 Committee shouldn't be trying to do the job of the Worship Committee. She suggested that the committee should focus on how to organize the calendar and provide a framework for the Worship Committee going forward.

Lori moved that the Adhoc #2 Committee provide a preliminary report to the board by the June 11th meeting. Ian seconded and the motion passed.

11. 100th Year Anniversary Celebration

Jane reported that the board needs to decide whether or not to invite Peter Morales to speak next year. She reminded the board that requests for him to speak require a six month advance notice.

12. Smart Church Program

Jane reported that there will be a conference call on June 12th with Maggie Lovins about implementing the Smart Church Program. She said everyone in the congregation is invited and welcome to attend by phone.

Jane adjourned the meeting at 8:20 PM.

Action Items:

1. Jessica will forward the General Assembly video link to Pat the office manager to put into infonet.
2. Board members will consider whether or not to retain Scope as a church publication and if so whether or not it will maintain a print version.
3. Board members will consider solutions to the problem of adopting the church's new mission statement.

Respectfully submitted,
Keivy McAlavy, Clerk to the Board