



Unitarian Universalist Church of St. Petersburg
100 Mirror Lake Drive North, St. Petersburg FL 33701

Update to B&G Minutes of 11/21/2017 for Board of Trustees 12/14/2017 Meeting

HVAC in sanctuary

To provide better control and options for the AC, simple detailed instructions were written placed by the controller so people can adjust the temperature in all 4 zones and to keep the sanctuary at a maximum of 79 degrees in hot weather.

Termites

Advantage Pest Control will be installing the monitoring system Wednesday, 12/20.

Rats & Mice

20 traps recently put out and on Monday – Wednesday several exterior openings sealed. Reggie has coordinated with Jeri and new rat expert. Planning for cleanup at base of Conway and church buildings soon.

Sanctuary lighting

Jim is still having difficulty getting electrician coordinated. Working on it. Jim will also ask about cost and design of having screens installed so we have the info as we are not sure if that would be done at the same time or not.

Sanctuary Sound System

Measurements for sanctuary needed – including ceiling height. Some miscommunication caused delay in getting measurements. Hope to have them before 12/17 and then follow up with sound company.

Painting Arlington gates

Tommy painted the black gate.

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Door security

Tom checked with our security company. Here is his report submitted 11/28

If we wish to change existing system we need to be clear on what problem we are trying to fix. Here are some observations and suggestions.

Existing system: Fort Knox Fire 4517 George Rd Suite 240, Tampa 33634 813-655-1605.
Two systems, one for fire and one for security. Both are monitored, the fire system is in use, but the security system is apparently not used currently. There are a total of 85 sensors for smoke, carbon monoxide, motion detection and door and window entry.

Cost of monitoring security is \$239/yr and fire is \$599/yr for total of \$897.52 with tax. There is also a \$805.50 charge yearly to test the system.

The fire system is very good with the exception of multiple failures due to the internet system being down. This problem creates a whining noise, but doesn't trigger the fire department coming. False alarms are expensive. Fred Russell, Pat Fearn and Reggie Craig are notified (although this may have changed). There appears to be no reason to change the fire system at the present.

Using the security system is another matter. The security system relies largely on physical switches that are placed at the doors and many of the windows and hard wired into the monitoring system.

All doors and windows have to be secure and the building empty before the system can be armed. This is a cumbersome system and prone to false alarms. Given the number of users, keys and other variables the system is not in current use. Perhaps monitoring of the security system could be discontinued.

The question for the fire system is simple, we don't want the church to burn down so the 24/7 monitoring is required. For the security system, the goal is not as clear cut. Because we don't have full time staff on site and we want to allow the widest possible use of the building, we need to balance the hassle of a fixed alarm system with the feeling that we can control the space.

The church hosts many groups of outsiders in addition to our members. If the goal is to prevent illegal entry, perhaps by thieves or vandals, the current system is vulnerable even if it were to be

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used. The most likely thief is someone who attends an event at the church and that case has easy ways to defeat the system at any door as the wiring to the sensors is exposed. In addition there a number of “fixed” windows that can allow easy entry.

Apparently some years ago there was some minor pilfering but in recent times illegal entry has not been a problem but is always a concern.

In the 2+ years since the existing alarm system was installed, there has been a step change in security systems which are largely now not hard wired, but rather internet based. The reason is that security devices on wifi are now very cheap such that ac/heating and even kitchen appliances are all remotely accessible from anyone’s smart phone.

The installation of video cameras with can be monitored in the church office and remotely by smart phone are a possible solution to the security problem. Wifi cameras cost about \$100-300 each and can be installed without much expense as they would operate off the existing church server. Placement of 3 or 4 cameras in the church would allow someone in the office to monitor whether there were others in the building and see who was entering and leaving. In addition, typically the cameras stream video to a cloud server which would hold all activity for 7 days such that any events 24/7 could be reviewed as needed. Since the video stream could also be viewed by those with the app and password from any location if needed. There is also a way to have the camera send a text message if motion is detected.

Issues of privacy should be considered in the placement and use of the camera. Signage is required as facial recognition has also come along way, so users of the church could be easily identified. Three cameras minimum would be required and five optimal.

Now, since this is a rapidly changing area, reviews of the various equipment makers show that it is not yet stable and choosing a system right now is a bit risky. If we decide on this solution, I will try to focus on which to choose.

<https://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2475954,00.asp>

<https://www.asecurelife.com/security-camera-reviews/>

Your comments are appreciated.

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