

**Draft of the Minutes of
The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lake County (UUCLC) Florida
Board of Trustees (BOT) Meeting
On December 11, 2014**

Call to order: The formal meeting of the UUCLC Board of Trustees was held at 127 North Grove Street in Eustis, Florida. The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m. by the President, Russ Littlefield.

The members of the Board of Trustees attending the meeting were Russ Littlefield, Christina Higgins, Carl Hommel, Katherine (Kit) Tatum, and Betty Emery. Members of the congregation present were Reverend Susan Berryman and Frank Bishop.

The Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on November 13, 2014 were approved by a voice vote after a motion made by Chris Higgins seconded by Betty Emery.

The Treasurer, Carl Hommel noted the Financial Reports for the period ending November 30, 2014 had been sent to all of the members of the BOT. He also noted there was \$78,039.45 remaining in the Ruth Gray Bequest Fund of the \$100,000 which had been advanced by the UUA and he had paid the bill of \$8,000 to the architect, Joe Rispoli.

The Stewardship Committee does not have a chairperson at this time. Russ Littlefield will ask Karen Woolhouse to lead this committee with Betty Emery as the liaison between this committee and the Building Committee.

It was noted there are two Stewardship training sessions, one in February in Orlando and one later in the year in Atlanta. Russ Littlefield reported Maggie Lovins had suggested we send a team for training to one of these sessions. Carl Hommel suggested we could cooperate with other UU churches in this vicinity and have an expert give training to teams from these groups. Ms Lovins said she would help to find a capable training person.

Ongoing Business

Chris Higgins will complete the Florida Department of Revenue forms for the Lake County Taxing Authority to offer proof we use our vacant land for a church. After the first year of ownership we will be eligible for a tax exemption offered to religious organizations after March 2015.

A revision of the Share-the-Plate rules was discussed. A motion, by Chris Higgins and seconded by Betty Emery was made as follows: Discontinue sharing the plate from undesignated monies collected on Sunday morning effective December 14, 2014 and give the Share-the-Plate funds being held by the Treasurer from the previous three months to charities. The motion passed.

The Contract with the City of Eustis for the **rental of the Woman's Club Building** had not been received at the time of this meeting. Russ Littlefield said he would call Mr. LaPolla if we did not have the contract by the end of this week.

Committee Revitalization was reported to the BOT by Rev. Susan Berryman. Christi Cleveland has been chosen by the BOT members to be the chairperson of a new advisory committee. This is a spiritual planning group which will be reading, researching and evaluating ideas for programs and worship elements to enhance the spiritual development of our current and future congregation. This committee will be called the Worship Research and Planning Committee (WRAP). There will be a sign-up sheet available on Sunday mornings or email Christi directly.

There will be a meeting to plan Sunday Services and the bulletin.

A vision and goal setting strategy will be studied by a group comprised of the various committee leaders meeting once each month starting in January 2015. The meeting will include leadership training.

The Building Committee was represented by Betty Emery who offered a Resolution having the BOT authorize Rispoli to proceed with the next phase of building design based on the floor plan (#5F5, which is Attachment I to the end of this document) approved by the building committee at the meeting on December 2, 2014. This Resolution was seconded by Chris Higgins, a voice vote was called by Russ Littlefield and the resolution passed.

Betty Emery pointed out that after review of the preceding designs the cost of the building (at this point in the project) is projected to come in at about \$200,000 under budget. This attached floor plan represents a reduction of space from previous designs.

Committee Reports

Social Justice Chairman, Frank Bishop, reported the committee has been meeting and discussing ideas for community benefit. Suzie Hanscom and Christie Cleveland will organize our part in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade in Leesburg on January 17, 2015.

The major emphasis of this committee will be on a presentation by Rev. Michael Dowd on January 28, 2015, in the Woman's Club Building at 6:30 p.m. on Climate Change. Frank Bishop has made DVDs of a talk by Rev. Dowd and will distribute them in advance of the talk. The BOT has approved \$200 for the committee to use in holding this event.

Social Justice has also discussed formation of a Community Garden project and is seeking land for that use in the spring of 2015.

Gina Rossi reported for the Publicity Committee that Chris Higgins and Oz Ward will be assisting her in getting the word out about the up-coming climate change event. They will meet on Thursday, December 18, 2014, at 1:00 p.m. in the office.

The **Nominating Committee** will be asked to make a solution to the problem we have with the ending of the two year terms of some of the members of the current BOT.

A motion was made by Chris Higgins to continue the current Nominating Committee through a second year. The motion was seconded by Betty Emery and after some discussion the motion passed.

Upcoming Sunday speakers in January will include Roger Seidner, Susan Berryman, Mrs. Dowd. The work of finding speakers will begin with February.

The **Discussion Group** will have Janeane Regan on December 14, Franklin Pennington on December 21 and Herb Gruning on the 28th.

Other Concerns

The **Trustee Position** made vacant by the resignation of Jack Champion will be filled by the Board of Trustees. The bylaws allow sixty days to fill the position.

Covenant Revision was postponed until a later date. The meeting was closed by general agreement at 6:45 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be on January 22, at 4:00 p.m., in the building at 127 North Grove Street, in Eustis, Florida

December 13, 2014

Respectfully Submitted by
Kit Tatum, Secretary

ATTACHMENT ONE

