

**Draft Minutes**  
**The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lake County**  
**(UUCLC) Florida**  
**Board of Trustees (BOT) Meeting**  
**On July 24, 2015**

This meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m., by the President of the Congregation, Christina (Chris) Higgins. The meeting was held at 127 North Grove Street, in Eustis, Florida. The members of the Board of Trustees who were present included Christina (Chris) Higgins, Russ Littlefield, Stuart (Stu) Anderson, Katherine (Kit) Tatum, Carl Skiles, Betty Emery and Susanne (Suzie) Lockwood. Members of the Congregation who attended were Gina Rossi and Sue Jantz.

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2015, meeting was made by Russ Littlefield and seconded by Stuart Anderson. The motion passed by a voice vote.

**Treasurer's Report:** Stuart Anderson reported from the Year-End Financial Report we had expenses of \$43,271, income (without 2016 pledges) \$44,728, against a Budget of \$49,520.

A discussion followed concerning the Seidner Challenge of \$1000 for this fiscal year. At this date the challenge had not been met. Stu Anderson will announce to the Congregation funds are needed to fulfill the amount needed and ask for donations.

Betty Emery noted the total amount in the Ruth Gray Bequest Fund of \$34,433. With expenses rising for the new building, she thought we should request an additional disbursement of funds from the money being held for us by the UUA. Chris Higgins will work with Stu Anderson to draft a request for funds based on estimated figures from the Building Committee Chairman, Carl Skiles, of the amount we will need to carry forward the building project.

**Committee Reports**

The Finance Committee will have a meeting on July 27, 2015 at 1:00 p.m.

**Social Justice and Environment:** The BOT thanked the committee for bringing the representative from the Apopka Farmworkers Movement, Jeannie Economos, to speak on Sunday, June 5. Sue Jantz, the chairman of the committee said that her co-chair, Ozell Ward, has been meeting with representatives of the Lake Harris Food Pantry to find out about their needs for food and labor and what we can do to help their organization.

Membership: A report for this committee was submitted by the Chairman, Eleanor Fessler. She reported as follows:” I am slowly recovering, but nowhere near ready to get to report to the board meeting. . . .there's nothing to report. I really would like to have someone else take over the chair for Membership. My health issues are starting to multiply, and I really can't give it the attention it needs. I will be glad to hand over all the things I have someone who would have new ideas. I've enjoyed the job, but I think it's time to go.”

We Care: The committee did not have a meeting this month.

Publicity: Gina Rossi made the report.

Bay Street Players will again carry our ad in their Playbill for the coming season. It is the same 1/2 page ad, top of page. They give out 21,000 copies a year, so the exposure is money well spent. I will also reach out to Ice House for their coming year's playbill. Have not heard from them yet this summer.

As you know, Kit and I have engaged Chris Ayres, who designed and built our website, to maintain it for at least the next three months. I cannot tell you how pleased we are with his knowledge, skill, responsiveness, accuracy, and his ability to suggest improvements where needed. So far this month he has clocked 1 hour, 58minutes of time.

We soon will be adding a new feature to the homepage that highlights events for the coming month. This will be changed at the beginning of every month so visitors have an easily accessed bulletin board of our activities. The bulletin board will send visitors to the site to the Calendar page for details. Chris is working on the design. Please let Kit know of any September highlights that she can convey to Chris.

Ted Fessler reports that he has received 27 requests through the website to be placed on the Communicator mailing list.

We continue to place weekly ads in the Lake Sentinel, Daily Commercial, Triangle News Leader and The Sentinel.

We anticipate changing the signs on the Church property to an artist's rendering of the new building within the next few months.

WRAP: The Committee has been planning for both the summer and regular services. The summer schedule is well planned. We will ask some lay persons to conduct the summer services; several people have volunteered. Carl Skiles has submitted the complete summer schedule in writing.

Social Events: The Social Events Committee did not have a meeting. Julie Champion informed the BOT members in a written report. We communicated informally about various activities. Sign-up sheets are being utilized again and seem to be effective in producing a more balanced luncheon.

During the summer, members, friends, and guests have been participating in the After-Services and Third Tuesday Luncheon dine-outs; the average "head count" per occasion is about ten people.

We have had suggestions to hold a Happy Hour at a local restaurant and a Game Night.

Building and Design: The Chairman of this committee, Carl Skiles, discussed the contents of a letter from the City of Eustis to Don Griffey, P.E. There were several items on the Site Plan to be revised; including boundaries, legal description, waste disposal, sidewalks, and underground electrical service.

Carl Skiles also informed the board members there would be a revised preliminary sketch of the proposed building.

The plans for the building are 80% complete. Joe Rispoli, the architect, has sent two sets of plans and two sets of specs to Carl Skiles, who will put one set in the office for congregation members to review. There is also a spec book and a set of plans on the internet on the Drop Box site.

A meeting of the A-V committee has been scheduled for July 28.

The chairman of the Design Sub-Committee, Betty Emery reported: The members of the kitchen committee investigated appliances for the new kitchen. The appliances recommended were forwarded to Joe Rispoli for consideration for inclusion in the design.

Roger Bills, the designer, submitted a bill for his services for the past billing period. The amount was \$661.25 and has been paid. The amount spent to date on his services is \$1006.25 which includes a \$200 credit which will be applied to the final invoice when the project is complete.

Roger is going to reach out to Bertolini (the company the furnishings committee prefers to use for our chairs) to start the process for that purchase. He will be asking for a sample chair for our approval before moving forward with it.

Roger has completed a schematic drawing of the proposed stained glass windows. The proposal allows for sections of the glass to be purchased over time as donations/funds come in.

## **ONGOING BUSINESS**

Solar proposal for the new building. Within ten days Carl Skiles will draft an initial a set of questions, which will be reviewed and added to by the rest of the Board and then submitted Solar Partners LLC to continue the dialog about energy options for the new building.

Presidents' Convocation Weekend was attended by Chris Higgins, who supplied a written report to the BOT. The discussions were centered on leadership and means to provide it. Some of the suggestions were common reading of certain books, board retreats, set goals and team building. There was talk about having a Right Relations Policy which speaks to Youth Safety and what UUCLC policy is if we encounter 'Bad Behavior', the idea being, it's best to have the policy in

place before you need it.

Other Concerns: Chris Higgins shared the contents of a letter from Roger Seidner, which was written on July 15, 2015. Rev. Seidner stated he wished to have his relationship with UUCLC be as an Emeritus Minister. The BOT decided he could change his title from Consulting to Emeritus without a formal vote of the Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m. The next meeting of the BOT will be August 21, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. in the building at 127 North Grove Street in Eustis, Florida.

The date of September 17, 2015 was selected for the September 2015 meeting.

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Respectfully Submitted by Kit Tatum, Secretary

July 26, 2015