

Draft Minutes
The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lake County (UUCLC) Florida
Board of Trustees (BOT) Meeting
On June 18, 2015

This meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. in the afternoon 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, Carl Skiles, Betty Emery and Susanne (Suzie) Lockwood. Members of the Congregation who attended were Frank Bishop, Bernie Greenberg, Janeane Reagan and Jane O'Connor.

Minutes of the May 11, 2015 Board Meeting -- were edited in paragraph 2 to reflect approval of the minutes of April 16, 2015 and then approved by a voice vote. Kit Tatum was absent and Chris asked Suzie if she would take minutes and Suzie agreed to do so.

Treasurer's Report -- Treasurer, Stuart Anderson, gave a verbal report and was advised by the President to present a written report of operating budget income and expenditures through the end of May. The report will be submitted subsequent to the meeting.

A Solar Power Proposal – Prior to the meeting, Frank Bishop had sent Board members the following proposal, which he orally made to the Board. An investment group – UUCLC Solar Partners LLC – would fund a solar panel installation on approximately 1/3 of the easterly facing roof area of the new church to be constructed on the corner of Mt. Homer and David Walker Roads to be repaid by the UUCLC over the course of the ensuing 6 years via lease-purchase payments of \$500/month.

The Board members posed a series of questions and productive discussion took place. Prior to the meeting, Betty Emery had spoken with Bill Ferree and asked if the solar project could be done after construction of the new building and he said the only concern in delaying the solar project would be possibly losing out on the federal tax credit after 12/31/2016, if it is not extended.

Chris pointed out that the UUCLC bylaws require Congregational approval before undertaking of debt. Specifically, the Bylaws state: X.C. Financial Indebtedness "The Congregation shall not become indebted unless said indebtedness is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Voting Members present at a duly called special meeting, at which a quorum of the Voting Members of the Congregation are present."

Clearly, the issues before us are serious: members have strong feelings about energy conservation and also about committing the congregation to future indebtedness. The Building Site Plan will be submitted to the city on June 19 and as developed does not reflect solar installation. Many congregation members are absent in the summer. This issue should have full discussion by congregation members.

It was agreed that the site plan submission must go forward and a congregational vote must wait until the fall. In the meantime, on behalf of the LLC, Frank Bishop asked the Board to outline its questions in writing. Chris had posed a general question: is the proposed alternative the most energy efficient option for the price and is there merit to delay, since it is anticipated the cost of equipment is declining? Other issues to be explored are whether some or all of the equipment might be donated. A full list will be developed with the help of the Building Green Committee.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee met on 6/17. Letter to Sue and Dave Jantz was approved and will be sent regarding their donation of a computer to record and maintain UUCLC financial records.

Social Justice and Education: No report

Membership: It was verbally reported that they have had 2 meetings. Russ suggested since Suzie is both on the board and on the membership committee she could act as Liaison for this committee.

Publicity: Gina Rossi submitted a request to acquire the services Chris Ayers to maintain the UUCLC website. The board wanted more information regarding the services to be provided. A motion was made to hire Mr. Ayer for 3 months on a trial basis. He will be asked to keep track of what he does and the amount of time required, so that the Board can better evaluate the services needed. The motion was seconded and passed by a voice vote.

WRAP: A summer service calendar was shared with the Board. Carl Skiles will continue to print the order of service for the summer. Russ informed the board that Janeane Reagan offered to serve as lay leader during the summer. Susan Mulholland also has an interest in this. It was said that it would be a good idea to enlist others in the congregation who have an interest.

By-Laws: Carl reported that this effort is ongoing and suggested all become familiar with the by-laws for input. There is interest in giving the section on indebtedness a closer look.

Building and Design: Carl reported Bill Griffey will be submitting site plans on Friday 6/19. Carl indicated that an artist will be creating a pen and ink drawing of the new building that we can use for brochures, etc, for \$450: cost to be shared 50% w/ Joe Rispoli.

Betty Emery reported that she had a positive meeting with designer, Roger Bills and will send out a synopsis.

Kitchen Committee: Reported they have actively been researching appliances. There is some confusion whether we are having a commercial or residential kitchen. Betty will call Mr. Rispoli to clarify the difference in the design requirements.

Other Concerns

General Assembly-- June 24-28, 2015 Portland, Oregon. UUCLC did not designate any offsite delegates for voting. We should plan better for next year's GA and other denominational affairs.

Presidents' Convocation Weekend – July 10-12, 2015 Orlando, \$250 double occupancy. Chris expressed interest in attending and Russ made a motion to fund her attendance. The motion was seconded and approved by voice vote.

July Meeting – July 24, 2015 11 am, Grove St. Office

Respectfully Submitted by:

Suzie Lockwood, Trustee

On June 23, 2015