

**Draft of the Minutes of
The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lake County (UUCLC) Florida
Board of Trustees (BOT) Meeting
On February 12, 2015**

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 4:04 p.m. by the President, Russ Littlefield.

The members of the Board of Trustees attending the meeting were Russ Littlefield, Carl Skiles, Christina Higgins, Katherine (Kit) Tatum, Phyllis Gillette and Betty Emery. Members of the congregation present were Reverend Susan Berryman and Pam Ward.

The Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees on January 22, 2015 were approved by a voice vote after a motion made by Carl Skiles and seconded by Phyllis Gillette.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer, Carl Hommel, did not attend this meeting due to his illness. Christina Higgins is learning the software which is used for our financial reports, but was not able to furnish any balances at this time.

Social Justice and Environment: Reverend Susan Berryman reported for this committee. The next project will be partaking with a decorated float in the George Fest Parade, in Eustis on February 28, 2015. The emphasis of the parade is Shared Values.

This committee will emphasize the Sustainability of Natural Resources. On March 22, they will conduct the Discussion Group about World Water Day. They will suggest to the Congregation to bring sustainable and/or organic food to the potluck lunch on April 22.

WRAP: (Worship, Research and Planning) This committee has held two meetings. The goals they are working toward are Sunday Services which will have a transformative and inclusiveness for all of the people who attend. This will include the arrangement of the elements of the services and make recommendations to the Sunday Services Committee when it advances beyond the formative phase.

Sunday Services: Rev. Berryman reported this new committee has the overall goal to create a Sunday service experience that is cohesive, spiritual, and motivational. Create a service that will reflect our covenant and principles. The concept is to create a service that is also welcoming and enjoyable and will

encourage participation and create motivation to return and become supportive with time, talent and treasure.

Membership: Susan Berryman reported for the chairman, Eleanor Fessler. We have six new members who have signed the membership book since the last meeting of the BOT. Rev. Berryman also said she will stay after the Celebration of Life service on the second Sunday of each month to talk with people who are new to UU and to those who are now and are former members of other UU congregations.

We Care: The report for this committee was given by the co-chair Pam Ward. She noted her co-chair Joanne Reilly, Chris Higgins and Susan Berryman were present at their first meeting on February 10, 2015. Pam noted the need for a member of the Congregation to carry on the work of this committee when the co-chairpersons leave for several months in the summer.

This committee made lists of members and friends “in need” of the committee members attention and the action steps needed to help these people. They noted the list of birthdays needs to be updated.

Publicity: Gina Rossi, who is chairman of this committee, noted by email to the BOT that there had not been any changes in their activities since the last meeting of the Board.

Building and Design: Carl Skiles, the chairman of the Building Committee, reported: a review of the progress and display of the architectural drawings thus far created by the architect were shown to the Congregation on February 5, 2015 at the Sunday morning Discussion Group. Carl Skiles noted the Mechanical/Electrical/Plumbing drawings will be fifty percent complete by February 11.

We have the Conceptual Site Plan from Griffey Engineering of Eustis, Florida. This drawing is identified as #13010 5, revision dated 02-05-15 Project #130105SPN. At the time of this writing (February 15, 2015) a copy of this site plan is being held in the files of Katherine Tatum, Secretary to the Board of Trustees.

Chris Higgins made a motion, which was seconded by Betty Emery: The Board of Trustees has reviewed this concept of the site plan and now authorize the architect and civil engineer to proceed with the preparation of the final plans for the UUCLC church building based on this concept. The motion passed by a show of hands.

Upcoming Sunday Speakers: Susan Berryman reviewed the speakers we heard in January and compared them to the February speakers and services which had

the speakers, music, and chalice lighting integrated around a theme for each service.

We will hear Dr. Randy Becker on March 1, speaking on “In It for the Long Term”, which will begin the theme of Stewardship for the month of March. March 8, Susan Berryman will speak on Stewardship and on the 15th we do not have a speaker at this time. On March 22 Susan Berryman will conduct the Flower Communion. The services for April are being planned.

Discussion Group: Carl Skiles is the leader of this group. Historically the discussions have either had a chosen topic, guest speaker or a representative from one of our Committees, i.e. Social Justice, to speak to the persons in attendance. We noted this is a long standing procedure and the BOT members did not think the discussions should have to be included in the themes for the Celebration of Life Service which follows.

On February 15 we will have “Daily Life in the Ancient World” from the Great Courses curriculum. On February 22, Egor Emery will present “Climate Change”. Karen Woolhouse will present a vision for the future of our church on March 1. On March 22 Lynda Bystrak will discuss World Water Day. The talk on April 5 will be presented by Franklin Pennington, Ph.D. on Out of Life and Near Death Experiences.

New Hymns: They have not been ordered. Carl Hommel volunteered at the last BOT meeting to order ten new hymns, but became ill the next day. Kit Tatum said she will order them.

Other Concerns

The members of the BOT discussed having a table at the Dragon Boat Race in Tavares. It was decided to study the cost and resulting good it will bring in members and money to the Congregation. We will research “tabeling” in general.

We discussed the use of advertising events not sponsored by UUCLC or the UUA. It was decided to use the Website with links to community events and advertising on a case basis. There will not be any email blasts for non related UU events.

The discussion of a Ministerial Relations Committee was started by Russ Littlefield. According to the by-laws of the UUCLC one member will be chosen by the BOT and two members by the minister. We also agreed that these should be non-board members. The minister and the members of the board will have names at the next meeting of the BOT.

The BOT members approved to have Russ Littlefield and Chris Higgins read our contract with Susan Berryman. Susan Berryman will provide her understanding of the contracted duties.

Susan Berryman has proposed to create a Leadership Council consisting of all of the chairpersons of the various committees. As proposed the Council would meet once each month to plan how we envision our church with long distance planning and a mission statement. This plan will have to conform to our by-laws.

The BOT members agreed to have a special meeting to study revisions to the by-laws.

We noted the Nominating Committee is required to present a slate of officers by March 15, 2015 which will be voted on at the annual meeting of the congregation on April 12, 2015.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m. The next meeting will be held on March 16, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. in the building at 127 North Grove Street, in Eustis, Florida.

Respectfully Submitted by Kit Tatum,

Date

Secretary to the Board of Trustees