

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lake County (UUCLC) Florida**Board of Trustees (BoT) Meeting****127 N. Grove Street., Eustis Florida****August 18, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 2:15 p.m. by Christina Higgins, President of the Board of Trustees of the UUCLC.

Attendance ---

Board Members: Christina (Chris) Higgins; Russell (Russ) Littlefield; Carl Skiles; Stuart (Stu) Anderson; Suzanne (Suzie) Lockwood; Betty Emery; Joyce Axelson, *volunteer scribe*.

Minutes:

Minutes of July 21st Board Meeting. Stu Anderson made a motion to accept minutes as written. Carl Skiles seconded motion to accept minutes as written. All members voted to accept the minutes as written.

Treasurer's Report:

Stu Anderson gave the Treasurer's report. Copies of FY2016 end were reviewed and corrected at the July 19th Finance Committee Meeting. All FY 2017 expenses are less than 8% of Budget except Rentals which is 9.4% of budget. We are underspending on budget. We are at 7 1/3% on pledges, 7.7% on total income. We are currently under on income projection possibly due to seasonality issues.

A single contribution was made to the Building Fund of \$5,000. Building account now slightly less than \$1M due to payment of building expenses.

CD1 matured on August 17, 2016 for \$8,000 and will be transferred into the Money Market Account that currently has a balance of ~\$41,000. That account is receiving 0% interest...we may need to draw on this account in the near future.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resignation of Pam Ward as Board Secretary, July 29, 2016—Bylaws VII.A.3.g. Board Meetings and other provisions: "Vacancies--A vacancy in any elected position, except President, shall be filled within sixty(60) days by vote of the Board, and the appointee shall hold office until a successor takes office on the following May 1st. If the vacancy occurs with more than one year remaining in its term, there shall be an election at the next Annual Meeting of the Congregation to serve the remainder of the

outstanding term. A vacancy in the office of the President shall be filled by the Vice President until successor is elected and takes office on the following May 1st.”

VII.A.1. Composition of the Board and Election Provision: “...Only a Voting Member who has been a member of the Congregation for at least one (1) year may serve as an officer or trustee....The Board may waive the one (1) year qualification limit for a voting member who is a prospective officer or trustee, for the benefit of the Congregation....”

DISCUSSION:

Chris invited the Board Members to think about how to present the aforementioned information in the most productive way possible to the members of the Congregation. Some methods were discussed such as a survey, announcement at the meeting, an email. Stu added that we do have a precedent with Jack Champion, who began as a member of the board prior to becoming a member of the congregation. Betty offered that the board has to fill vacancy by the next meeting.

The board members discussed the possibility of a temporary Secretary and then the Nominating committee will create a slate of officers for the annual meeting in May.

Chris spoke about the Nominating Committee needing to create a slate for the following positions. Chris also mentioned that we need to begin grooming people for these positions.

President
Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary

Nominating member, read bylaws, chosen by board. Announce 4 weeks prior.

Chris will make an announcement about the vacancy for Secretary position due to resignation of Pam Ward on Sunday, August 21st, to the congregation to inquire if there is any members are interested in the position of Secretary at this time. If Chris is out of town, Russ will make that announcement.

ONGOING:

- **Posters to publicize UUCLC on exterior of Grove St Office.**
 - Chris wants to leave this item as ongoing
- **Lake County Interfaith Council – meeting 8/17 2pm Muslim Mosque Leesburg; Organizer Sandy Conn Arnold has expressed interest in becoming a UUCLC member.**

Chris updated the Board on meeting that was attended by Chris, Suzie, Joyce, and Pat Barton. A local attorney is drafting language for the Council, pro bono. A number of Committees were formed. Chris has joined the Education Committee in order to provide context for UUCLC. It would be helpful to be educated and to make in roads to make sure discussions are consistent with UU Platform on Interfaith participation.

Faculty, who teach World Religions at Lake-Sumter State College and/or Beacon College, are members of the committee.

Sandy Conn Arnold, the organizer of the Interfaith Council attended our service on Sunday. She is exploring a variety of paths, including study at the One Spirit Seminary School in Manhattan and expressed interest in joining UUCLC and possible UU internship. Chris suggested that Sandy submit a written proposal for UUCLC Board consideration.

Chris suggested that although our social justice committee does not meet, maybe we could include involvement with the Interfaith Council under that umbrella.

- **Long Range Plan –**

Construct Building; Develop next leaders; develop additional programs; establish mid-sized congregation –While Maggie Lovins' is on medical leave, Ken Hurto is our reference person.

Chris would like this left on the agenda.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ISSUES:

Leadership Council Meeting:

Tentatively scheduled for Thursday, September 8th at 10:30 a.m.

By-laws Committee:

Tabled

Building and Design:

Construction--Going Well; Contract on Schedule. Structural Change to building was made to the number of columns to support metal overhang behind the classrooms over the sidewalk and on Kitchen side.

Review of service and deliverables:

Chris asked what assurance we have that we have received services/deliverables etc. before we make payments. Carl indicated that Architect Rispoli makes periodic visits and advises him, the Site Manager also advises re: deliverables received and both Carl and Stu have been onsite. Don Stearns may be able to assist with site review, as well, but has not been in Eustis recently.

Duke Energy put transformer at property line. We have to run conduits to building. This is negative for us as we have to pay. This is on Mt Homer Road; we need 3 phase power. This may cost several thousand dollars or more.

Russ advised Wayne Lynnfield that we will not be going forward with the alternate analog proposal for Audio Visuals for the church. Wayne understood.

Interior Design --- The Board reviewed selections for interior wall colors, flooring, bathroom partitions. The objective was to select beautiful, colors that are calming, soothing and inviting...Neutrals that are not dated.

Regarding the Hardi Board exterior color, Betty has requested nine color samples to make a selection to go with Copper roof. The supplier is interested in project so he will expedite samples for Betty. Betty is trying to stay within the Budget.

1. Congregation Meeting and Vote – August 28, 2016;

Some do not want to sell land because

- Prices are likely to rise in Real Estate
- Use of land for Multigenerational building
- We lose opportunity to manage use of land
- Other ideas for use of land

Other news about development of land on Tavares side of property may create rise in value of property – The Board received a Conceptual Plan of the Lake Hermosa Village by the Avalon Park Group. (Attached)

- Discussion followed on the verbiage used to frame the proposal to the congregation and the absentee ballot.
- Discussed whether we should contact multiple realtors, perhaps get better terms?
- In addition to construction project, we have other needs to consider:
 - Begin funding a Minister.
 - We need to increase the budget for Publicity

2. Need for additional research? Other Realtors w/ more competitive terms?

3. Signage

Signage—Gina has obtained quotes from the company that provided the signs that we currently have. Carl will send the samples through email. The sign is lighted, monument sign style. Per Carl, the cost of the signs will not be covered in the construction Budget, which has a \$2500.00 line item for signs.

Audio Visual System—

Chris signed the contract with Entertainment Arts and mailed it to them.

Russ advised Wayne Lynnfield that we will not be going forward with the alternate analog proposal for Audio Visuals for the church. Wayne understood and he and Pat will be meeting with Russ and June soon socially.

4. Fundraising committee

Fundraising Committee should be convened as soon as the chair returns. Robert Myatt should be back in September. Russ sees main task of fundraisers is to pay off loan. Discussion regarding asking other UU's to help us, perhaps via Faithify.

If we don't get authorization, we will need to use \$100,000.00 that we have in reserve, and the CD which means we are losing emergency monies.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Chris suggested that we need a Committee Coordinator. People have started to collect Weave the Tapestry of Faith UU World center sections.

- Think about who is a natural RE person get back to Chris on that
- IDEA: Could we advertise OWL program and begin RE with that for teenagers?

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Next meeting August 25 10:30 am; orientation session tentatively planned for October. Need to look at schedule in October to run orientation...Simpson House in Mt Dora is available all Saturdays except October 8th

PUBLIC RELATIONS

- Beginning of July, Chris Ayres, our Webmaster, announced he was closing his website business. Gina quickly found, hired, and then fired a woman in Ocala who proved unable to work with us. Happily, we now have a pleasant, smart gentleman, Jeremy Winfree, who will be our webmaster at a low monthly fee of \$39.00 for 3 hours work.
- Please email all website material to Gina for inclusion on the website. Anyone who would like to post articles on the site, please send to me via gsrossi@mac.com. If you happen to take pics of the site on Mt Homer, please send any that show the latest progress (We already have plenty of bulldozer shots. :) Kit will continue to maintain the calendar, so send those data to her, please.

On a lighter note, Gina has renewed our ad in the Bay Street Players Playbill for the coming season. As the walls go up on our new home, she is looking into other outlets. If your community has a newsletter that takes ads, let her know. For example, the Plantation Times takes ads for churches. She will be inquiring about the cost.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Open Door is going well and continues to need help for our 11am to 2pm Friday shift.

WE CARE

Needs help

WRAP—

- Theme for 2016-2017 is 'Building a Beloved Community'
- Plan services, Speakers for future, no small task.
- September
 - Aug 28: Rev Roger: Seidner: Inspiration - Evolving Consensus
 - Sept 4: Franklin Pennington: Please Squeeze the Shaman: Magic and Mysticism
 - Sept 11: David Williamson of the Central Florida Free Thought Community. Topic to be Announced
 - Sept 18: Janet Onnie TBA
 - Sept 25: Roger Seidner
- September Discussion Group: Janeane Reagan How Understanding Developmental Trauma Helps Explain Antisocial Behaviors

The meeting adjourned at 4:15.

Next Leadership Meeting is at 10:30 am, Thursday, September 8th. The next Board meeting is Thursday, September 15 at 2:30 p.m.

The October meeting is at 1:00 p.m on October 13th.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Axelson