

## **March 2017 Minutes**

### **The Unitarian Universalist Congregation Lake County (UUCLC) Florida**

#### **Board of Trustees (BoT) Meeting**

**127 N. Bay Street., Eustis Florida**

**Thursday, March 9, 2017**

#### **In Attendance:**

Chris Higgins, Russ Littlefield, Stuart Anderson, Joyce Axelson, Trustees, Carl Skiles, Betty Emery and Suzanne Lockwood, Members, Peter Pitzele, Visitor Mac Griffith, Senior District Executive Lake District Boy Scouts of America (BSA).

The meeting was called to order by Chris Higgins with lighting of the chalice and a meditation and centering at 1:10 p.m.

Mac Griffith, BSA, gave a presentation and overview of Central Florida Council BSA. Mac presented some ideas of possibilities of what UUCLC and BSA Lake County, could do in forming a partnership. The following is the list that Mac presented:

- ✓ Scouting for Food – annual feed the hungry campaign
- ✓ Adult training location – use of UUCLC building and grounds to train adult volunteers
- ✓ Scout Service Projects and Eagle Projects – benefits from the service of BSA
- ✓ Camping Location –
- ✓ Unit Sponsorship
- ✓ A \$1 million liability insurance policy covers this organization.

Other possibilities for this partnership or affiliation will be an ongoing discussion.

## MINUTES

Some board members had not read the draft minutes; therefore, it was suggested that members read those draft minutes and then the vote would occur through email. Members voted and approved this process.

## TREASURER'S REPORT:

Stuart Anderson gave a report on the Financial Status of UUCLC:

- ✓ End of February – Operating expenses - we are at 67% of the way through the FY
- ✓ Expenses are at 39% -- we have money left
- ✓ Income: Total pledges are at 66%
- ✓ Pledges are expected to be higher this year because we have an increase in membership
- ✓ Building fund is decreasing steadily getting low we are ½ way through

## ON-GOING BUSINESS

**Annual Meeting** – per bylaws to be held the first Sunday of April, i.e., April 2, 2017 and publicized at least 14 days in advance, i.e., by March 19, 2017. Agenda to include election of officers and presentation of budget for the ensuing year. Because of uncertainty regarding building occupancy date, the Annual Meeting has been postponed to April 9, requiring notice by March 26.

- ✓ **Nominating Committee** – John Landers, Joanne Reilly and Gina Rossi are developing a slate to fill vacancies for President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Per bylaws, the Nominating Committee 'shall prepare from the Official Roster of members a slate of eligible candidates for election as officers and trustees to fill expiring and vacant terms of office and shall announce these names at a Sunday Service at least four (4) weeks prior to the Annual Meeting', i.e., March 12, 2017.

- ✓ Chris Higgins will run for one more year as President
- ✓ Candidates for Vice President, Secretary, and Trustee will be announced at service on March 12th

### **FY 2017-18 Pledge Drive**

- Discussion on format for kick-off the of the 2017-2018 Pledge Drive were discussed at length.
- Committee chairs have been invited to submit their budgets to President, Chris Higgins, for review and approval for the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year to use as talking point for Pledge Drive.

### **General Assembly 2017--June 21-25, New Orleans, LA**

Lengthy discussion on General Assembly followed included the following:

- Board Members will research costs involved in attending GA, hotel travel, registration. Initial research indicates the following costs:
  - Hotel -- \$729.55
    - Research B&Bs for more affordable accommodations
    - Registration for GA prior to April 30 \$350.00
    - \$415.00 as of May 1<sup>st</sup> – for Wed, Thurs., Fri, Sat, and Sun.
    - \$140.00 for one day
- Amount that UUCLC subsidizes those who want to attend was discussed.
- Voting Privileges at GA were discussed following points to be considered:
  - How voting members/delegates are designated
  - Equip voting members to vote on behalf of congregation
  - A delegate can vote on line providing they are registered as an off-site delegate

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Register by March 16 for Legislative Days** – see attachment
  - Discussion on this matter included the suggestion that David and Sue Jantz might be interested in this project. Another alternative might be an email blast communication regarding this.
  - It is difficult to oversee the many Social Justice opportunities without a committee. The vehicle of providing information to congregation is limited now.
  
- **Boy Scouts of America Presentation – Peter Pitzele**
  - What is the next step in forming relationship with BSA?
  - Who will be the Liaison for BSA? Peter has spoken with David Jantz about this project.
  - A walk of the 'land' for new UUCLC site is planned for March 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am to begin to think about uses for the land including affiliation with BSA
  - UUCLC might offer to host some of the adult training that was spoken about in the presentation to UUCLC by Mac Griffith of BSA.
  - UUCLC might offer use of the land for Scouts to work on badges, i.e., camping, service projects, clearing land

## **Committee Reports and Issues**

**Part time Minister Interview Committee** – Report from Egor Emery, Judith Havens, and Carl Hommel.

- The Board reviewed the report and recommendations from the Interview Committee. A long discussion followed and the Board will interview the Candidate on Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.
- Discussion included following points:
  - Necessary Housing
  - What would schedule of PT minister be? Nine months
  - First year of contract would be considered a preview for the minister and congregation and at end of year determine if we want to continue the relationship.

- By-laws were reviewed on hiring protocol including announcement to congregation
- Russ acknowledged the fine work that the Part Time Minister Interview Committee did on this project

**Public Relations** – Grand Opening – May 13, 2017 – Planning Meeting Report sent by Gina Rossi via email of 2/28/17, forwarded by Chris on 3/3.

- Decision on who and how to invite to Grand Opening
- Decision on having a reception beginning with Lake County Concert Band followed by light refreshments was made
- Invitation being designed and worked on
- Volunteers offered to contact local officials, Police Departments, Fire Departments, Schools, Government Officials, Interfaith Council, and ministers
- Creating News articles regarding the history of UUCLC, Ruth Gray, the building, and vision of UUCLC for community outreach and service.

### **Leadership Council Meeting—**

- Minutes of 2/23 meeting circulated
  - Requested all Committee Chairs to attend this meeting
  - Form Committees and engage members in volunteering for supporting committee work and the new building
  - Jim Lenahan, new member, volunteered to oversee Building and Grounds Committee
- Next meeting 3/20 at noon.

### **Building and Design—**

- **Carl Skiles—presented and discussed:**
  - construction and occupancy schedule and issues
  - sale of land
  - Key Pads – cost and design
  - Telephone, Cable TV, Electrical
  - Alarm systems – need to have prior to CO

- April 14<sup>th</sup> building may be done, need to have inspections completed prior to occupancy

➤ **Betty Emery—Design and Furnishing schedule and issues;**

- Design of stained glass windows, researching vendors
- Delivery Schedule of furniture, chairs, tables, appliances to be delayed until we get firm date for CO.
- Use of left over stone from building for signage
- Piano – details of donation, delivery, do we need bench to go with piano or does it come with, piano to be tuned after in building, does it come with frame for moving and cover?
- Make a list of items that we can ask City of Eustis if we can have
- Peter offered to assist Phyllis with the Kitchen details of the move
- Pack and Inventory items at Woman's Club to be moved to new site
- Amazon Wish List --- encourage members to look at list and purchase items that they may wish to donate
- Peter suggested that we make a list of what we need or what is on wish list and distribute at services

**Finance:**

- FY 2018 Budget

**Membership:**

- Next meeting 3/20 at 10:30am
- Fourteen new members

**WRAP:**

- Out of the Box, Discussion Group; Services

**EDUCATION:**

- Tai Chi, session II is underway

**SOCIAL JUSTICE:**

➤ **Open Door**

The next two meetings of the BOT will be:

**March 30<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.**

**April 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.**

Stuart Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:30 p.m., Carl Skiles seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Axelson-Lorch  
Secretary