



Board Meeting Minutes Tuesday, May 20, 2014

Members Attending:

Jack Harvey, Jo Shafer, Ken Sizemore, Charissa Thacker, Ruby Jo Faust, Christine May, and Tisha McSharry

Jack Harvey, President, called the meeting to order at 6:29 pm and asked Ruby Jo to light the chalice while all members of the Board read our covenant in unison.

Secretary Report: After hearing no additions or corrections to the minutes of the April meeting, Tisha moved for their approval. Chris seconded, and Board members unanimously approved them as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Due to his travel, Ken Sizemore did not provide a complete detailed report but will distribute one to Board members by email on May 21.

- **Resource Development**

Ken reported orally that he received seven more pledges by email, bringing the total pledged to \$55,000.00, still short of the goal. VP Jo Shaffer reviewed the proposed 2014-2015 budget in the new Five Year Plan to show where she has adjusted categories of expenditures to fit within the anticipated income. She also reviewed the various goals throughout the plan showing where some were delayed due to the shortfall, notably the plan to hire a part-time administrator. Tisha moved to accept the revised Five Year Plan, Chris seconded the motion, and Board members agreed unanimously.



- **Recommended Changes to Bylaws**

Jack Harvey reviewed proposed changes to the Fellowship's bylaws in the section pertaining to the management of the Endowment Fund. Until it grows large enough to enable expenditures from it, the Treasurer will be responsible for its management. Jo Shaffer presented proposed changes to bylaws having to do with leadership and succession planning. Charissa moved that we approve all the changes, Ken seconded the motion, and Board members agreed unanimously.

- **Donated Vehicle**

Jack and Ken discussed an offer of a donated 1993 vehicle. The donor has offered \$250.00 to cover any needed repairs, but wants it to be used by our Fellowship rather than being sold. Ken said the insurance would cost about \$600.00 annually. He also agreed to ask Arthur Smallidge to evaluate its mechanical condition before we accept it. There were four Board members in favor of accepting it, and three opposed. (If there was a formal motion, I did not note the names.)

- **Marketing Plan Development**

Jack briefly discussed some ideas for marketing our Fellowship, but deferred detailed consideration to a later meeting.

- **Faith Development**

Jack led a brief discussion of a proposal we have received from Nikki Simon for the formation of a *Spiral Scouts* chapter in Panama City (See www.spiralscouts.org). Jack proposed that we agree to let the group use the little red schoolhouse without charge, provided that UUFBC could be recognized as co-sponsor of the group. Jo moved that we follow Jack's suggestion, Ken seconded the motion, and Board members approved unanimously.

- **Vision and Growth**

Christine reported briefly on the successful Cluster Workshop held here on May 10, and passed out copies a handout suggesting ways congregations could help each other grow by sharing tasks and resources.



- **UU Environment**

Charissa discussed our growing problem with having enough parking space. She will contact the manager of the strip mall across Lisenby Avenue about permission for our attendees to park in the spaces nearest the street on Sundays while the businesses are all closed. She also presented pictures of signs needed to direct disabled visitors to the ramp in back of the building and to direct smokers to the designated smoking area. Ken agreed to the purchase of these signs. She also proposed purchase of a new water heater from the current budget, if possible, but the decision on this was deferred until the June meeting.

- **Social Justice**

Ruby Jo and Jo reviewed recent and planned BYILD activities, including:

- 1) a successful event in April featuring a tour of the FSU campus, followed by a meal in our Fellowship hall.
- 2) a successful first Small Group gathering in Claire's House, led by Chris. Planned activities for this group include an art project led by Diane Mouskourie and a meal-planning and cooking event led by Chris.
- 3) a planned outing on May 24 to St. Andrews State Park. This was organized by Charissa and will include a ranger-led hike on a nature trail, a tour of seagrass beds led by STEM Master Teacher, Linda Yori, picnic lunch provided by the Social Justice committee, and snorkeling the jetties in the kiddie pool and free swim.

Ruby Jo reported that the SJ committee approved asking our Fellowship to endorse the *Move to Amend Resolution* as recommended by the UU Justice Florida leadership. The UUJF is providing a form for recording a congregation vote on the resolution at our annual meeting in June. The resolution supports efforts “to defend democracy from the corrupting effects of undue corporate power by amending the United States Constitution to establish that:

- 1) Only human beings, not corporations, are endowed with Constitutional rights, and
- 2) Money is not speech, and therefore regulating political contributions and spending is not equivalent to limiting political speech.”

Chris moved that we add the vote on this resolution to the agenda for the annual meeting, Ken seconded the motion, and Board members approved it



unanimously.

Jo distributed for review a proposed policy and application form for outside organizations who might solicit donations from our Fellowship.

Jo related what she has become involved with an effort to organize an Interfaith Council to include liberal congregations as well as some more conservative ones. One of the reasons given for its formation is the need for faith groups to work together on causes to benefit the community as a whole. Jack moved that we donate \$50.00 to this group to help with organizational expenses, Charissa seconded the motion, and Board members approved it unanimously.

Jack adjourned the meeting at 8:40 pm.

