

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Emerald Coast Board Meeting Minutes

Date: October 15, 2013

Time: 6:30PM

Place: Unitarian Universalist Fellowship; Valparaiso; Florida

Board Members Present: Karen Lauer called the meeting to order at 6:30pm; Beth Reindl Madrigal, Ed Farley, Rece Hawley, Kathy Roniger, Amanda Piburn, Josh Ashley, Don Hawkins and Diane Gibson, Micah Krider and Loren Boyer Board Members were absent.

Guests Present: Elisabeth Ashley, Jane Park, Judy Byrne Riley and John Drury were guests.

Board convened for an Executive Session for the first 30 minutes and closed the doors. No action items were taken so not minutes of this session are presented.

Welcome and Check In – All reported what is right and interesting with their world.

Chalice Lighting – Reverend Rod Debs, it took a little longer. We opened the meeting for guest (none were present) at approximately 7:30.

Secretary's Report – Minutes were presented for August 19, 2013 and approved. September minutes will be reviewed and approved electronically to save time.

Treasurer's Report – Ed read the attached report. It consists of an income and expense analysis reflecting the actual deficit we are experiencing is coming from increased expenses and lack of pledges. The deficit in income is higher than budgeted and the total deficit for 2014 comes to approximately \$2,995 total, but the first few months reflects much high numbers. Details are in the analysis provided. The year to date income and expenses for May through September, 2013 shows a \$7,724 deficit as of the end of September. Ed reported that there was approximately \$13,000 in cash left in operating funds.

Charge to Religious Services Committee – Amanda read the charge that the committee and the board adopted the Policy unanimously.

Congregational Meeting

Nominating and Election Procedures – Micah reported that the Nominating Committee has procedures which we have copies of and that he was prepared to sent electronic ballots out to those who couldn't attend for absentee voting. The board agreed that this was not verifiable as coming from a member so those ballots would have to be hand delivered to a member of the nominating committee in person before the election or mailed to the fellowship ahead of time, signed and sealed.

By-Law Change – Endowment Committee, Don Hawkins made a recommendation to change the Endowment Committee terms from two three year terms to one five year terms for continuity and the need for expertise in this area. The By-Law change was made by the committee and the change

presented to the board and approved. The Committee presented two new members which will Denny Lauer and Jane Montgomery.

Finance Review/Committee Report – Elisabeth presented an updated financial report at the meeting with full explanation of income shortfalls and stated that Elisabeth will be presenting it to the congregation at the meeting. The finance committee made a recommendation to the board that all salaried employees take a 10% cut in pay to provide a cut in expenses since the budget was not balanced and income was short. Don motioned for the acceptance and it was noted that this would be presented as an action item at the Congregational meeting as it was a item that needed to be voted on by the congregation as a whole.

Town Meeting Review – Jane Park attended and reported that we had a great turn out of about 40 people for our town meeting and she will be following up with various requests in the next few months.

DRE Report – Beth discussed attendance with everyone’s busy fall schedule and soccer, we have had a few less “babies”, mostly. Ed requested that an attendance report be provided at the Board meetings and Beth agreed to come up with that on a monthly basis for the report. The upcoming retreat was mentioned and many policies and procedures are being discussed for the children.

Minister’s Report – Reverend Rod reported on his attendance at the Southeastern Unitarian Ministry Assembly and the emphasis they made on responding in spiritual respect for others; the idea that loving one another is more than words but emphasis on our actions and behaviors toward each other.

Committee Reports

Program Council – Josh said they are meeting tomorrow. Second hour programs are going well and leaders are stepping up as needed.

Religious Exploration – Micah reported all was well. Second retreat will be 11/17 at fellowship. We could always use more volunteers.

Facilities – Door should go in soon in the children’s room to the playground. Bookcases are coming along and Winky has been working hard on the library.

Food, Fun and Fellowship – Diane Gibson has been out of town, will report more next month when she catches up with everyone.

Membership Committee – Ed reported that we have just over 100 members, Shar is working on this and will have exact numbers before our Membership meeting.

Communications – Beth reported that they were unable to meet last month with time constraints for the three members interested. All being updated with website and calendar as needed. Everyone was opposed to advertising as we don’t have the budget.

Board adjourned the meeting at just after 8pm.