

**Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Emerald Coast
Minutes of the Board Meeting April 18, 2011**

Call to Order

President Denny Lauer called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. Also present were Ed Farley, Diane Gibson, Micah Krider, Karen Lauer, Chris Larson, Kathy Roniger, Sandra Topp, Judy Byrne Riley, and Ex-Officio member Rod Debs.

Minister Focus

Rod provided a reading, and introduced Kesh Vladamani for the purpose of his being accepted as a friend and elder in communion with the congregation.

Kesh informed the Board about modern Hindu civic/wedding practices here in the U.S. It was moved by Chris and seconded by Ed to bring to a vote to accept him as friend and elder.

Review Agenda

Denny added the Kesh Vladamani item as item 4a. in today's Agenda.

Review Minutes of March Meeting

Chris made a few recommendations for changes. Micah moved and Denny seconded the amendment of the minutes. Kesh was voted on and approved as a friend and elder unanimously; he can be available to perform **either** Hindu or other forms for wedding ceremonies, and he is also a Notary Public.

Documentation of the action, signed by the President, will be forwarded to Marion Taylor in the office and the Membership Committee.

Treasurer's Report

Available finances are good right now. A comment was made that better interest rates could bring consideration of changes in the terms of investment CDs. Ed said the total income and expense targets have been kept the same as those which were sent to the membership.

Finance Committee Report

The adjacent property under consideration for purchase was sold to another buyer for \$98K cash. Payout to UUFEC for the car accident/building damage claim was \$15,450. There was some discussion of a few totals from Endowment and the accident settlement that could use some modification. Micah moved and Ed seconded for a vote to accept the new budget proposal as is. The approval vote was unanimous for presentation of the 2011-2012 Budget to the congregation.

Annual Budget Meeting Discussion

Meeting will be after 10 a.m. service, before coffee time. A quorum will be determined by Diane by a count of hands. Ed will use the generalized budget form for presentation. Karen recommended that checking and savings account \$ numbers need to be included and transparent. There was discussion of logistics of the meeting.

RE Playground/Fence Proposal

Fence is planned for being put on the east side of the building, and built with cypress, locally milled and harvested (and lasts 20-30 years). Fence's footprint is 30'x30', should cost \$1580 total (wood materials, hardware, a \$54 permit for construction, and 30 bags of concrete included). A member of the fellowship offered skilled, free installation. Questions were entertained. It was agreed that check writing would go through Fred Boyer. Chris moved and Ed seconded to approve expenditure and design for building the fence. Voting was unanimous to approve except for Millie's vote of Nay.

Minister's Report

Rod wants a photo of the congregation to take with him as he visits congregations in Europe. He gave some tips about possible problems that could come along

in the function of the fellowship while he was gone. Bill White and Darryl Bruning have agreed to be available for emergency pastoral care during Rod's absence.

The CMC will be available for personal problems. Rod will resume sermons in September. He announced the celebration of World Peace Day to be on Sept 21, 2011.

He would like to see it happen at NWF State College in cooperation with the Interfaith Celebration of Okaloosa County, the name of the sponsoring group.

Rod and Jeannette will be flying out May 4, then back in June 8. There was brief discussion of the scheduling of Verbal Chalice publication with Chris going to General Assembly.

Denny made the announcement of a Bon Voyage party for Rod at the Lauers' April 29, 2011, 6:30-7:00 p.m. (start time--to await Rod's arrival after a wedding he performs that day.)

Closing

Rod gave a reading. Next meeting will be May 16th. Denny adjourned at 8:15 p.m.