

# Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Emerald Coast

## Minutes of the Board Meeting January 16, 2012

### **Call to order**

President Micah Krider called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm. Also present were Kathy Roniger, Sandra Topp, Millie Williams, Brenda Fleming, Derek Reding, Josh Ashley, Diane Gibson, and Rod Debs, ex officio. Guests present were Elizabeth Ashley, Jane Montgomery, Fred Boyer, and Ashleigh Rhodes.

### **Minister Focus**

Rod Debs gave a reading

### **Review of Agenda**

Micah Krider reviewed the meeting agenda.

### **Review of August Minutes**

The December minutes were reviewed. Josh Ashley made a motion, seconded by Millie Williams, to accept the minutes as written. The minutes were unanimously approved by the board.

### **Finance Report**

Elizabeth Ashley gave the financial report. There was a boost in December pledge income as some members paid forward and some caught up with their pledges. Tax credit statements are available in the back of the Fellowship. Those not picked up will be mailed after next Sunday's service.

There was a financial review done by Gail Frommeyer last month. According to her review, the fellowship is in good financial shape for the beginning of 2012.

### **Memorial Garden Update**

Jane Montgomery discussed the plans for the memorial garden to be located at the old playground site. Phase I of the plan will include the installation of a pergola, irrigation, one tree, shrubs, and inscribed bricks. The estimated cost of phase one is \$3,675 with an estimated \$1850 for the pergola, \$1000 for irrigation, \$700 for tree and shrubs, and \$125 for the bricks. The plans for phase I were discussed by the board. Millie made a motion to approve proceeding with phase I as planned using \$3,675 of the money collected from the insurance settlement. This was seconded by Sandra and was approved unanimously by the board.

Plans for phase II were also discussed. Included in the plan are pavers, steps, retaining wall and more plants and shrubs. This is estimated to cost \$5,300 with \$2,600 for pavers, \$500 for steps, \$1,800 for a retaining wall and \$400 for plants and shrubs. Further funds for phase II will need approval by the board. There will be future fund raising, such as engraved bricks, to help pay for the memorial garden.

### **Non-member Counting**

Ashleigh Rhodes discussed the recent change made by the UUA in the Congregational Membership Certification Form. This year the UUA is asking for a count of friends of the fellowship along with the usual membership count. This information is requested in order for the UUA to get a sense of how many people benefit from the services of UU congregations without being members.

Previously the UUA has only asked for a count of members and therefore UUFEC has not formally counted friends of the fellowship. As many people visit only rarely or move out of the area, it is a hard number to calculate. The board discussed various methods of counting friends including statistical analysis, etc. After discussion, the board determined that the members of the Membership Committee should be the ones to decide upon the best method to count friends of the fellowship as well as the best method to keep track of friends in future years.

### **Congregation Action Poll**

Ashleigh also discussed the congregational action issues proposed to appear on the 2012 GA agenda. As a certified congregation, we can vote on the issues we as a congregation would like to see discussed. This year's topics include:

- 1 Climate Action and Adaptation Plans: green house gases and their effects
- 2 Ending Modern Slavery
- 3 Exploring Class Barriers
- 4 Families, Population and the Environment
- 5 Reproductive Justice

These topics were discussed briefly by the board then each item was voted upon individually. Topics #2,3, and 5 each won majority votes by the board members.

### **Playground Status**

Micah presented the status of the playground project and future plans. Phase 1 of the plan, building the fence, is nearly completed. It is projected to be approximately \$450 under budget.

Phase 2 involves replacing a window in the nursery with a door, moving one A/C unit, building a ramp from the door to playground, and building a fence around the exterior AC unit. This is projected to cost \$1479 with an estimated \$925 for the door replacement/installation, \$250 to move the AC unit, \$54 for a permit and \$250 for unexpected expenses. This was discussed by the board. Fund raising options to off-set some of the costs of future phases were discussed. Sandra made a motion to approve funds amounting to \$1479 to pay for phase 2 of the playground plan. Motion was seconded by Josh, this was approved unanimously by the board with Micah Krider abstaining from the vote.

Phase 3 will include a pergola and benches. Further funds will need approval from the board.

### **Closing**

A reading was provided by Rod.

### **Set October Meeting Date**

The meeting was adjourned by Micah at 8:25 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for 2/20 at 6:37pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandra Topp UUFEC Board Secretary