

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Emerald Coast

Board of Trustees

Meeting Minutes 20 July 2015

Attendees: Jane Park, Shirley Boughton, Stiles Thompson, Miriam Williams, Don Hawkins, Karen Lauer, Rece Howley, John Drury

Absent: Loren Boyer, Dave Abraham, Jennifer Conroy

CHECK-IN

Board read the Board Covenant of Right Relations together.

Shirley Boughton reported on the Birmingham Convocation of Presidents/VPs in Birmingham, AL:

Leaders from Pensacola, Panama City were not present. She met with many other congregational leaders. Reviewed “Congregational Leadership in Anxious Times” and met with groups in the mid-South area. Covenants were on subject, UUFEC appears to be on target IRT congregational, board covenants. Leadership Retreat needed for visioning retreat for board, committee leaders who are not on the board. Fiscal year for region, UUA, 1 July – 30 June. Folks appear to like this very much, new board comes in at the start of the fiscal year.

Congregation can ordain organizational local ministers for interim ministers and she is possibly able to cover that as a fill in for items. Still wants to pursue shared ministry with Panama City and Pensacola.

CONGREGATIONAL COVENANT OF RIGHT RELATIONS (CoRR): Miriam Williams, Shirley Boughton, Loren Boyer

Miriam Williams reported on Congregational Covenant of Right Relations Project. Provided the following timetable:

16 August: Official Announcement for Inputs on CoRR

13 September: Second Hour Date for Congregational Input

11 October 2015: Final Draft for Congregational CoRR posted for Review

25 October 2015: Congregational Meeting, vote on the Congregational Covenant of Right Relations

Concerns about ensuring that everyone who is out of town (snowbirds, etc) is contacted and can provide input. Flexibility is needed for project success.

DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR POLICY GROUP: Stiles Thompson and Jennifer Conroy

Discussed using the term “Unacceptable Behavior” instead. Reviewed policies and liked that of Raleigh UU Church; however, it is intended for a larger church. No mention of COM. Must bring it to the right relations committee then if unresolvable to the board to deal with the person.

COM description is currently in by-laws. As a board we cannot change by-laws but can recommend changes to congregation

Discussion turned to other items raised in the COM letter from April, including suggestion that Darrell Bruning be informed of changes being made to the policy.

Miriam Williams moved not to make a formal effort to inform Darrell Bruning of any changes in Disruptive Behavior Policies per COM recommendation. Shirley Boughton seconded. *Vote: 6 in favor, none against, two abstentions. Motion passed.*

Election committee:

Jane Park and Miriam Williams will bring forward potential changes on how we nominate board members. Suggesting bylaw changes to divorce the nomination and election subcommittee from the board itself.

Cecile’s Contract was presented and reviewed.

Shirley Boughton moved to approve Music Director’s contract as amended. Stiles Thompson seconded. *Seven in favor, president abstained. Motion passed.*

Karen Lauer stated she had talked to John Lindegren. John Lindegren stated he had spoken to Nels Oas, a minister with UUFEC ties. He will be in area January – March and willing to be ministerial presence and pastoral care. Shirley Boughton has also offered ministerial care.

Deadline is October for Jan 1 start date; late April deadline for August 1 start date.

Discussion on other ministerial options. Some board members promoted delaying ministerial decisions for at least six months.

BUDGET/FINANCE/TREASURER’S REPORTS

Stiles Thompson reviewed the budgets. John Drury wants to make sure special projects items are tracked individually such as Sound, bricks, etc.

MINISTER’S REPORT: Reviewed with no comment

COMMITTEE REPORTS

RE COMMITTEE: looking for volunteers to moving forward. Want to ensure DRE search ad stays on the front page of the website.

Sending folks to the Mountain leadership training– timeline seems hard to do it in a meaningful way. Seems expensive for us, \$1,500 for a minimum of two people. Considering OWLS training or RE training as a more cost effective use of time and monies.

NO RE chair yet.

FACILITIES CHAIR:

John Drury stated that Fred Boyer should do an audit of air conditioners.

Fred Boyer wants to have a group of volunteers and leaders trained in depth on how to use television and media properly, with refresher courses.

Problem in the parking lot: there is a big tractor is not ours, and this not the first time they have trespassed. Harming our concrete. Need to get money to post signs stating that this is private property, members only, do not enter, and 3-4 chains to block unwarranted entry.

Short discussion of whether Fireworks/holiday parking is a good way to raise money.

Shirley Boughton moved to allocate a maximum of \$300 for appropriate signs, posts, and other materials as soon as possible to address misuse of parking lot by non-members, with responsibility delegated to the facilities committee. Stiles Thompson seconded. *Vote: President abstained, all others in favor; motion passed.*

Talked informally with some committee chairs to reduce the number of committees and such IRT compliance with the bylaws.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.