

**Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Emerald Coast
Minutes of the Board Meeting February 21, 2011**

Call to Order

President Denny Lauer called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

Present also were Ed Farley, Diane Gibson, Don Harrison, Micah Krider, Karen Lauer, Chris Larson, Kathy Roniger, Millie Williams, Scotty Zilinsky, and Ex-Officio Member Rod Debs, and Don Hawkins.

Minister Focus

Rod Debs performed the chalice lighting and provided a reading.

Review Agenda

Denny acknowledged the focus would be heavy on Finance and discussion of “What is Worthy of Us” related to the congregation’s future.

Review Minutes of January Meeting

After review, Ed motioned that minutes be accepted as distributed, Karen seconded. Denny will enter listing of committee liaisons each month in the Agenda.

Denny announced that Millie will be our Parliamentarian.

Treasurer’s Report

Ed said that by appearances we are \$3000 under budget but the reality is \$3000 over budget due to early pledges. Regular pledge statements issued to members may be helping healthy ongoing pledge levels. Loan is still there, checking account is healthy. Payroll expenses’ ongoing discrepancy will yet be resolved. There was an adjustment made from a member’s check being misdirected, then correctly routed..

Finance Committee Report

1. Auto Damage claim--USAA would not pay for 50 ft. replacement tree. The settlement process continues. A tree has been donated to replace one of the two that were killed.
2. John Drury raised \$1075 for sound system purchases (including matching funds from a Donor) of 2 handheld mics and 2-3 speakers. There was discussion over the need for finding hands-free mic arrangement. It was moved that the Minister, Scotty Zilinsky (Religious Services liaison) and Sandra Topp (Facilities) coordinate with Drury the needs of the fellowship vis a vis choosing particular kinds of equipment. Moved by Karen, seconded by Kathy. Abstention by Ed, all others Aye.
3. No recent input to Finance about funds for prospective property deal. Denny said rumors of purchase figure has been \$70,000 and upkeep \$200/mo. There is no asbestos in building, and no insulation, found thru quick inspection. By spring, with more progress in gathering funds, we may be able to “make a move.”
4. Ed says if we fall short of pledge budget that we prune from some areas of Budget. We have 122 certified members of the Fellowship. Possible settlement of the accident insurance claim will likely be an off-Budget item. Denny noted the possibility of new building expenses.
Denny asked for present Budget info to be taken back to committees, then requested that projections be please sent to Judy Byrne Riley ASAP so Budget will better reflect reality. Final Budget needs preparation for the Annual Mtg. April 24, 2011. Board Meeting will be the week before to review Budget. Discussion followed about that day being Easter Day and a holiday. Karen Lauer, Kathy Roniger, and Don Harrison were designated as a By-Laws Committee to begin discussion for next year about the Executive Board having more decision-making control of the Budget.

Emerson Society Status

Don Hawkins will recommend to Endowment Committee to move some funds from bonds to equities as they are currently more productive. \$5700 is available now in cash for use for property purchase. Future funds raised for building purchase will be taken in and held by Emerson Society until used. (Denny will find out where funds from the accident claim resolution might best be

“held” as well.)

What is Worthy of Us

Denny proposed we begin a conversation in the congregation and amongst the Board about what we all want to do and be in the future, within the congregation, and within the greater community; also, the question “What is the meaning of what we do as the Executive Board?”

Minister’s Report

Rod brought news of our more elderly members. GA is weekend of June 22--Karen Armstrong will speak. Discussion of possible travel arrangements. Michael Dowd and

Connie Barlow will be at the Mid-South District Assembly. Beach Con is June 3-5.

The Minister’s sabbatical will be May through July, during which Rod will be

in Europe May 4 through June 8, including a two-week Pilgrimage to Transylvania with the UU Partner Church Council.

Karen announced Shelter House Benefit is March 12, 2011.

Denny announced the next meeting: March 21, 2011

Closing

Rod provided the reading, extinguished the chalice and Denny adjourned at 8:28 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Gibson, UUFEC Board Secretary