

**Unitarian Universalist Church**  
**Congregational Meeting**  
**May 4, 2008**  
**Minutes**

The Congregational meeting was called to order at 12:52 pm by Diana Stevens, President, Board of Trustees. Mary Francis, Secretary, announced that approximately 50 percent of the membership was present, which exceeded the 20% required for a quorum.

Diana Stevens introduced the other BOT members and announced changes to the executive officers:

Tempie Taudte, Vice President (recent change)  
Bill Blymiller, Treasurer (recent change)  
Mary Francis, Secretary  
Ed Benedict, Member-at-large  
Kathy Hunter, Member-at-large  
Ralph Lehman, Member-at-large  
Russ Patterson, Member-at-large (not present)  
Felice Richardson, Member-at-large (not present)

Agenda

The meeting agenda was projected, rather than copied, so that we could be as paperless as possible.

Covenant

Our UUCT Congregational covenant was projected and everyone read it together.

Congregational Meeting Notes, December 16, 2007

Ed Benedict moved that the minutes of the December 16, 2007 meeting be accepted. Suzie Siegel seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Reports of the Committees

Bill Blymiller projected the committee lists and briefly reviewed the meeting notes from the Council meeting held on April 20, 2007. There was a sign-up list on the membership table for anyone who would like a copy of the meeting notes.

Election of New Board Members

The Nominating Committee – Grant Wilson, Jamie Hendrickx, and Martha Robinson - is now a standing committee. The Nominating Committee had five people running for three BOT positions. We thanked all of those individuals for allowing themselves to be considered.

Bios were available prior to this meeting at the church, in the Domelight, and on the web. The nominees spoke briefly:

Kathy Hunter  
Rom Delacroix  
Beverly Bethune  
Diana Stevens  
Patricia Keller (not present)

Bill requested nominations from the floor; however there were no additional nominations.

The ballot box was passed, counted, and the three newly-elected BOT members are:  
Diana Stevens, Kathy Hunter, and Rom Delacroix.

### Budget

Bill projected the budget for discussions and announced that we are currently \$5,000 to the 'good'; however, year-to-date we are close to \$4,000 behind in fundraising and \$2,500 in compensation due to professional expenses. Also, insurance went up and so costs are higher than planned. Overall, we are close to \$2,000 favorable for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2008.

Special designated funds, like the gazebo, will be set up separately in the budget so these activities do not affect the other budgeted items.

### Stewardship Drive

The annual pledge drive is a most important part of the budget planning because they are used to create the budget.

Jamie Hendrickx will be the 2008 Stewardship Chairperson. Jamie expressed excitement about the opportunity and looking forward to this year's campaign. Pat Benedict has promised to assist. We will continue with the cottage-meeting format, so if you are willing to be a host, contact Jamie.

### Building and Grounds Recognition

Bill thanked people who have pushed and helped with the Building and Grounds improvements.

### Proposed By-Laws Changes

Ralph reviewed some future bylaws changes that will be presented at a future meeting. Changes include: Section 3. e. Disruptive Behavior; Section 6. Donations and Funds: Restricted and Unrestricted. Some points of clarification were discussed. Recommended changes to the by-laws will be sent out prior to the next meeting.

### Betty Lee Award

Diana Stevens presented the Betty Lee Award to Judy Lehman, who has served in many roles in the church. Long list of Judy's contributions was given and everyone applauded. Judy was presented an award certificate and her name was added to the wall plaque.

### Florida District Awards

The Domelight editor, Chris Hendrickx, was presented a Florida District award. Great job, Chris!

### Domelight Status – on line or otherwise

A year and a half ago it was decided that the Domelight would go online. The Board had promised to revisit the decision to see if the online version is working. The Domelight is mailed to those who pay a \$15 subscription fee. Also, copies of the Domelight are available at the foyer of the church. There were no major concerns expressed. Since we are moving toward a 'green' church, the online newsletter is appropriate.

### New Orleans Partner Church

The New Orleans churches have asked for help. The topic was discussed. Wayne moved and Faye seconded a motion to table this idea until a later date. The motion carried successfully.

### Capital Campaign

Ara Rogers reviewed the Assessment meeting and some of the recommendations in the report about how we might proceed with a capital campaign. The Assessment report gives a detailed plan and is on the web site for members to review them.

The planning committee has begun to implement some of the first steps in the Assessment planning. An Architectural Program Statement was passed out. Three people have been identified for the Architectural Selection committee – Fran Davin, Ralph Lehman, and Steve Allison.

Additional Suggestions discussed: Have an open area inside the building for fellowship and a covered patio area for extended space.

Ed moved that we accept the UUCT Architectural Program Statement as submitted by Ara Rogers, Gene Pizzo seconded the motion. The motion passed with one opposed.

#### Consultant for Capital Campaign

Diana spoke in favor of hiring the consultant, Dave Rickard, from UUA.

Bill moved that we ask the congregation to allow the BOT to spend up to \$20,000 for the combined consultant and architect plan fees for the capital campaign. Ed seconded. The motion passed with one abstention.

Consultant fee is \$760 a day for 14 days and will be paid out incrementally as the expenses occur. Tom Hagner asked how the expense will it be covered. Bill Blymiller explained that we have \$30,000 in expendable funds that will be used. This will take most of our expendable funds.

There were concerns about why the previous campaign stalled, which was explained; primarily because we lost our minister and then our momentum. Concerns were expressed about following through on previous architectural plans. The architectural plans that were previously completed were projected and discussed. These plans will be a guideline in this new campaign.

Bill Blymiller moved that we accept this general site plan recommendation. Joan Lund seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Note: Any building architecture decisions will be brought back to the congregation for approval.

Note: A quorum was still met at the time of the vote on the items related to the capital campaign.

#### New Business

There was no new business.

#### Adjournment

Pricilla Brewer moved to adjourn the meeting and Ruth Davis seconded. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 2:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary Francis*

Mary Francis, Secretary  
Board of Trustees