

MINUTES

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church

Board of Directors

April 19th, 2011

Attendees: Claudia Harris, Vice President; Virginia Villarreal, Secretary; George Leppla, Treasurer; Members at Large: Amanda Lawrence, Betty Parent, Robert Smith, John Allen. Ex-officio members Susan Caldwell, DRE, Barbara Jarrell, Chaplain

Absent: Susan Bettinger, President

Lighting of the Chalice

The Chalice was lit; members took turns quoting words of wisdom.

Approval of Minutes

The Board read the Minutes of March 22nd; after corrections were made, Claudia moved to approve the Minutes, and Amanda seconded. The Minutes passed without opposition.

BPOD

1st Sunday, 5/1: Susan Bettinger/ Robert Smith

2nd Sunday, 5/8: Amanda Lawrence/ John Allen

3rd Sunday, 5/15: Betty Parent /John Allen

4th Sunday, 5/22: Claudia Harris/ Virginia Villarreal

5th Sunday, 5/29: George Leppla/ Amanda Lawrence

Ordination: George Leppla/ Amanda Lawrence

Chaplain's Report

Remodeling in Sanctuary: The sanctuary will be made more accessible to the handicap confined to wheelchairs. Plans are made to remove the top pew on the right side as one enters the sanctuary, build a ramp level with the floor up to the second pew. This would allow the wheelchairs to have a place to go in the sanctuary out of the way of the pathway. The ramp will be of stained wood, and the estimated cost would be \$1,000.00. We will look into the possibility of using money from the Sue Suzette accessibility fund to pay for the remodeling. Betty moved to have money from the fund used to pay for the remodeling, John seconded, and the motion passed without any opposition.

Pastoral care: Barbara stated that there are members in our congregation in dire economic situation, and asked that we think of ways that we as a congregation may help. George suggested that we establish an Emergency Pastoral Fund. The privacy of the members in need of the fund will be kept private, with only the pastor, together with two more members in charge of the fund.

Another idea suggested was establishing perhaps a pantry. This was deemed not feasible, due to the lack of storage space at church and the logistics involved in managing the operation.

Betty asked if the members have exhausted all of the resources available in the city. A brochure may be assembled and made available to the members with all of the possible resources that could be used for help. Betty volunteered to make the brochure.

There are members who do not have transportation to and from church; they may not have a car or they may not be able to drive. We could have available in the office a list of names of members willing to help with the driving. Those in need can then contact them for help.

Building and Grounds

Betty Parent submitted her report for the building and grounds, as follows:

Workday 4/9/11: On April 9th, the Building and Grounds had another workday. The following members attended: Betty Parent, John Allen, Barbara Jarrell, Ron Thurston, Maryanne Cummings, Susan Bettinger, Susan Caldwell, Terry, Patrick, Shirley, Claudia, Kevin, Amanda Lawrence, Abbas Moussaoui, and others.

1. A/C filters checked – was told they looked GREAT
2. Light bulbs in chaplain's office – Terry checked every outlet and bulb in the building, replaced as needed and we discussed his getting ballasts to repair the ones broken.
3. Ant poison, poison ivy spray – Done, redo next workday
4. Tree from office side cut and moved
5. Caulking around building (Kevin and John rock)
6. Door thresholds checked and tightened – Terry & Betty did, they all need to be removed, caulked and reinstalled
7. Dead bushes trimmed
8. Move Sisters of Miriam bookcase – Susan Bettinger, Susan Caldwell & ? took care of this
9. Check kitchen and pantry – Maryanne Cummings checked, threw away and reorganized the pantry.
10. Clean debris from flower beds in front of church – Claudia, Ron & ?
11. Check front of property for trash, trimming for better seeing sign - none
12. Table on patio for nursery – Patrick
13. Spot clean carpet in hallway – Barbara, Susan Bettinger, Susan Caldwell
14. Blow debris around church -

15. John & Amanda began digging out the bricked planter, tree cut down.

16. Sprayed wasp spray into holes of carpenter bees in children's play area. Evidently no difference.

Treasure's Report

George gave the Board his report:

Budget: We have \$22,800 as of April 10th; also, we have collected up to \$51,630 in pledges, about 36% so far, which is very good up to now. Bills are all paid. George showed Jan how to deduct the medical expenses for Barbara, which helped in solving the problem of how to enter the information in Power Church.

Updating Bank Signatories: We need to update the members that can serve as bank signatories for the church; Claudia will pick up the letter from the bank to see exactly who is on the list right now. George suggested that the board's president, vice president, secretary and treasurer should be on the list of signatories. It would also include our bookkeeper (Jan, in this case).

Automatic Fund Transfer: George looked into the automatic fund transfer, which would allow members to choose that their contributions be charged directly to their bank accounts or credit/debit cards. It would cost the church money to do the transactions, including a web hosting fee of \$25.00, a registration fee of \$50.00, \$0.45 per transaction, and card discounts rate of 2.75% per transaction that is assessed for processing both credit cards and debit cards; because of the costs, George suggests we take a survey to see how many people will be willing to donate their pledges and donations by credit and/or debit card to see if it would be worth the cost. The Board felt it would be worth looking into, and considered the costs minor compared to the benefits gained.

DLFD Report

Upcoming Events:

- Easter Egg Hunt April 24th: We will have our Easter egg hunt. Members are turning in the eggs, toys, etc. to Audrey Allen or to the office.
- Welcoming Congregation: Our last town hall meeting will be Sunday, May 22nd, at 9:30 AM-10:00 AM.
- Congregational Meeting: May 22 in the sanctuary at 12:30 PM. We will vote on:
 - 1) Electing new Board members: Amanda Lawrence, President; George Leppla, Treasurer; Members at large: Norma Debrow, and Clay Walker.
 - 2) Vote on whether or not we will become a Welcoming Congregation.
 - 3) Permanently have the nomination of members to the Nominating Committee moved to the December Congregational Meeting.

Council Report

Volunteer of the Month: Our May volunteer of the month is Ron Thurston.

Volunteers of the Year: Pam Holt is our new member Volunteer of the Year.

Susan Bettinger is our old member Volunteer of the Year.

Green Sanctuary: Susan Caldwell is checking to see if we have the status for our grounds to become a Green Sanctuary.

Denominational Affairs Team Report

Steve Caldwell submitted the Denominational Affairs Team Report with upcoming Unitarian Universalist events for the 19th of April 2011 and beyond. The report is posted with the minutes

Office Report

We still need volunteers. We have four volunteers to handle the office, but we need volunteers to fill in when one of the volunteers is absent. **The Board stated that if no one else signs up to help, the office will remain closed and out of service on the days that our volunteers cannot come to work.**

New Business

Playground Committee: The Playground Committee wants to have a dry pasta sale, where we would get 40% of the profits. John moved to have the pasta sale, Robert seconded, and the motion passed without opposition.

2011 Summer Training: Robert gave us the dates of the upcoming summer trainings:

- June 2-5th is the SW District Faith Development Training in Fr. Worth, TX. District training for “Our Whole Lives” (OWL).

Adjournment

At 9:25 p.m. Amanda moved to adjourn the meeting, John seconded. The motion passed.