

# MINUTES

## All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church

### Board of Directors

**March 22, 2011**

7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

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

**Absent:** Robert Smith, Member at Large

#### **Lighting of the Chalice**

The Chalice was lit, and Barbara read a passage by Rainer Maria Rilke.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

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

#### **BPOD**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday, 4/3: Susan Bettinger/ Robert Smith

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, 4/10: Amanda Lawrence/ John Allen

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, 4/17: Susan Bettinger /George Leppla

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, 4/24: Claudia Harris/ Virginia Villarreal

#### **Chaplain's Report**

**Pastoral Care:** Hank is not doing well. Barbara is asking that we visit him more often. He is presently at Kingsley Place.

**Church Advertisement:** Barbara showed us the first set of lawn signs based on our Unison of Affirmation; Susan Bettinger, John Allen and Amanda Lawrence were the first to take the signs to put in their front lawns. We will first place the signs at the entrance at the church for Sunday's service (March 27<sup>th</sup>) as a way to show them to the congregation. The congregation will also be informed about the project. A form will be placed on the Bulletin Board and on the table in the foyer so members can sign up for the project.

**Health Insurance Questions:** Barbara still had questions about her health insurance policy; Jan has been asking Barbara to complete the paper work for her insurance; however, she hasn't been able to complete everything, because she still doesn't know the state of her insurance. Amanda informed Barbara that Jared had given her the

information that they needed, and she and Barbara would get together to complete all of the bookkeeping.

**Human Rights Foundation:** Barbara has been invited by the Human Rights Foundation in Washington, D.C. to attend their conference this May 22<sup>nd</sup>. It would mean that Barbara not be in the pulpit on the day(s) she will be out, and asked the Board if she could be absent on those days. The Board approved, and considered it an honor for her to attend.

## **Building and Grounds**

Betty Parent submitted her report for the building and grounds.

**Workday:** The Building and Grounds committee held their workday 3/12/11. Attendees were Betty Parent, John Allen, Barbara Jarrell and Ron Thurston. They worked on, and completed many chores. They cut and removed bushes, tree branches, weeded flower beds, cleaned debris from the A/C slab, dug a ditch near the chaplain's parking lot to help drainage, placed ant poison, and much more.

**Erosion and property analysis:** The erosion analysis will cost \$1,200, and the property analysis will cost \$2,700. The Board then discussed if we wanted to go ahead with both. George suggested we do the appraisal first to see what it contains; it may include in the evaluation information about the soil. Depending on the results and information, we may then have to also go ahead with the erosion analysis.

### **Vendor Work:**

- Gutter Cutters cleaned the gutters. Betty will check to make sure they cleaned all of the gutters.
- Window Gang washed the church building from behind the church office, across the entire front to the brick planter in back.
- Air One did the spring service, and all A/C filters were checked.
- Giglio Plumbing repaired/serviced every sink, faucet, toilet and drain at the church. The knob on the outside faucet on the left side of the sanctuary was removed. It was leaking behind the faucet down the wall.
- Johnny DeLoach gave a quote of \$1,400 for painting the pole, doors and windows across the front of the church. John moved to approve the painting job, Virginia seconded, the motion passed.

## **Treasure's Report**

George and Jared Davis have not yet been able to meet and coordinate. George will get together with Jan to learn more about the church finances.

George gave the Board his report. Last time he checked we have \$20,000 in the bank; also, we have collected up to \$40,000 in pledges, which is very good up to now.

## **DLFD Report**

Susan provided the Board with a written report. The following items are found in her report: **(for further description, please read Susan's whole report, which is attached to these Minutes.)**

### **RE Committee:**

The newly reorganized, RE Committee has met twice since the last Board and Council meeting. Members of the committee are Audrey Allen, Cherrie Groves, Richard Denton, Robin Drury, Katie Drew, Rovena Windsor and Steve Caldwell. Audrey has agreed to chair, and Cherrie is considering co-chairing beginning after tax season is over.

At the February meeting, the group brainstormed a list of qualities/life skills/basic knowledge they want to see in young adults who graduate from our program; committee members agreed to look at our existing curricula and at new curricula from *Tapestry of Faith* online.

**RE Greeters:** We're recruiting people - RE Team members and others – to serve as RE greeters for first-time visitors with children, assuring that they know the morning schedule and where their children's classes will be, and that they feel welcome.

**Easter:** Easter is April 24<sup>th</sup>. Audrey will do a flyer and an article for the newsletter soliciting eggs and help.

**Nursery:** Rena Reisman had to quit her nursery job because she moved too far out of town and has no car. Susan hired Crystal Butler to take her place. She will be working with Karly Aiken.

**Adult RE:** Barbara and Susan have now taught three sessions of this spring's New UU class. The class has a good group that includes 8 new and not-so-new members

#### **Welcoming Congregation Workshops:**

Two sessions have been done so far. Discussion has been lively, and attendees are generally VERY positive about becoming a Welcoming Congregation. So far, we have a group of 14 if everyone continues to attend.

**Recent Workshops:** The two recent weekend workshops were both very successful.

**Kaye Landauer**, a Jungian storyteller brought here annually by Sue Crow, did her workshop here for the first time this year, and they plan on coming back. **The Basic Enneagram** workshop was also well attended, and we received a lot of positive feedback on the setting. Though the object here is not to make money, we did make \$225 and \$300, respectively.

**Cancer Research Presentation:** Cindy Diaczynsky and a colleague have put together an educational presentation about the current state of cancer research and the work they are doing at LSUHSC. They are doing the presentation around town for various churches and civic organizations, and we are working on scheduling an evening in April for their presentation.

### **Council Report**

**Upcoming Events:** These are the following upcoming events:

- The Plant Sale sponsored by the Green Committee has been moved to Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at church.
- Fundraisers: The two fundraisers, Bob Jordan's The Conly's and Elizabeth Just's St. Patrick's fundraiser, went very well.
- Ordination Committee is sending out letters to the congregation to inform the need of fundraising to help pay for the costs.
- Interfaith meeting will be held here at church on March 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**Volunteer of the Month:** Betty Parent is our April Volunteer of the Month.

### **Denominational Affairs Team Report**

Steve Caldwell submitted the Denominational Affairs Team Report with upcoming Unitarian Universalist events for the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March 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. Virginia will post a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

## **New Business**

**Direct Pledge Deposit:** Kathy Osuch asked Virginia to present to the Board a form used in her mother's church, which would allow members to choose that their contributions be charged directly to their bank accounts or credit cards. This would ensure an even and constant flow of pledges and donations, and relieve the members to always having to remember to pay their pledges. George will look into this, and find out how we can do the direct deposit transactions.

**Emerson Sunday:** The Board agreed on having Dr. Phillip Rozeman to be the 2011 recipient of the Emerson Award. Dr. Rozeman has worked extensively to improve education, and is known across the State as someone who reaches across to all sides and gets things done. Susan will call Dr. Rozeman to ask him if he would accept the nomination. Amanda then motioned to accept the nomination, and Betty seconded. The motion passed. The presentation will be May 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **Adjournment**

At 9:45 p.m. Betty moved to adjourn the meeting, Amanda seconded. The motion passed.