

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Emerald Coast
Minutes of the Board Meeting December 12, 2011

Call to Order

President Denny Lauer called the meeting to order at 6:42 p.m. Present were Ed Farley, Diane Gibson, Chris Larson, Karen Lauer, Micah Krider, Kathy Roniger, Millie Williams, Scotty Zilinsky, Sandra Topp, Debbie and Darryl Bruning, and Ex-Officio Member Rev. Rod Debs.

Minister Focus

Rod gave a reading.

Welcome

Denny made everyone welcome for the Holidays and the year-end Meeting.

Review of Agenda

Denny went over the Agenda.

Review Minutes of November Meeting

A few corrections were made for the final posting by the Secretary.

Finance Report

Ed reported that \$4680 expenses over income should be rectified when individual financial reports are given in January 2012. The fellowship is “in the red” due to membership shortages, but that should resolve. Elizabeth Ashley has agreed to be the new chair of the Finance Committee.

Memorial Garden

Chris Larson motioned that the Memorial Garden be constructed on the site of the old children’s playground, on the S.W. side of the church building. Scotty Zielinski seconded. Vote was a unanimous Yea. Jeannette Debs, Kathy Roniger, Jim Martin, Jane Montgomery and Fred Boyer are involved in planning. Karen Lauer noted that she would like to be included as well. A planning subcommittee was established with the aforementioned members.

Posting Policy Update

Denny requested input from the Board on wording of the amended posting policy, and asked that Kathy Roniger send out the proposals of both posting and aesthetics, again, so we can all look at them some more.

Nursery Fence Status

Five of eight panels have been volunteer-constructed, but construction has been delayed for the time being. Estimates were given for contractor-completed work. Denny suggested the subcommittee get together with Fred to continue to plot plans as some conditions have changed. There will possibly be a report from Jennifer Krider next month.

DRE Review

Debbie and Darryl Bruning attended DRE Training in November; Darryl also went to Mountain Con with 5 “Tweens” and Sandy Urbanczyk. Don Harrison and Micah Krider are leading the Youth Group, which will have localized youth activities and will meet monthly. January will

mark the end of this year's curriculum, changing to a different component of Tapestry of Faith—the online program has lots of flexibility for its use. Paid staff are Jay Reindl and Brian Urbanczyk in the Nursery, and Jennifer Conroy and Jeannie Caudle. Debbie pointed out the enthusiasm of the children in three new families for the program at UUFEC.

Diane noted that for the New Year, that incoming President Micah Krider needs names of all the 2012 Committees' and subcommittees' members' names.

Facilitators Review

Shar Farley related some historical markers like the 2006 initial offerings of "Second Hour", the development of Green Sanctuary and Welcoming Congregation certifications as examples of how the Fellowship was meeting the needs of its different demographics (and presently, three quarters of attendance goes to Second Hour). Primary criterion for Second Hour: "Is it in line with our Mission Statement?" An issue for the future is the adequacy of physical space for meeting (RE activity uses the bigger percentage at the present time). Shar suggests the Chair duration be three years. The name "Facilitators Circle" could be changed to "Program Counsel" (like a secondary Board for program planning).

Minister Report

Rod noted members who need visiting or who are recovering from surgery. Maxine Neal from UUSC is coming for a visit January 22, 2012. Rod urges a reinstatement of our Social Action Advisory Council, covering:

1. Forums
2. Congressional Research Projects
3. Interest Groups (e.g., Peace)
4. Task Groups (Shelter House, etc.)

Valparaiso Police have been cooperative about our Cold Night Shelter, but don't think there are homeless people in ValP. There is a Dec. 19 Christmas Party at Opportunity, Inc. (on Rod's birthday). The Minister doesn't plan to be away in January 2012.

Old Board Closing

Denny thanked the 2011 Board, showed his plaque given by the Board, gave a token of thanks to each member, and "passed the baton" to Micah Krider, incoming President for 2012.

New Board Business

Micah asked for any issues about a 3rd Monday, 6:30 p.m. meeting for January at the Fellowship.

Closing

Denny adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.