

Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota

Minutes of the Annual Meeting

Sunday, March 25, 2012

Call to Order

President Rick Sandler announced that we have a quorum and called the 2012 Annual Meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. The agenda, minutes of the March 2011 Annual Meeting, proposed budget for 2012-2013 and the UUCS 2011 Annual Report were distributed.

Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the March 27, 2011 minutes was moved by Charles Lee and seconded by Dick Happy. The motion was approved.

Bylaw Amendments

The By Law Task Force Members Joanne Curtis, Dick Happy, Jim Craig, Roger Fritts and Sara Slate convened in the fall of 2011 and proposed the changes to the board in January. The board approved the changes and in compliance with the bylaws, the proposed changes must be approved by the church members. Sara Slate explained the key changes.

- Article II Membership: Changes the age of membership from 16 to 17 years to comply with the church's Articles of Incorporation; changes the age requirements for a junior member; broadens the definition of dual members to include members in the Florida District; more clearly defines the definition of a friend and removes the newsletter subscription section.
- Article IV - Board of Trustees (BOT): Increases the BOT term from two to three years and provides for term limits for trustees and officers; creates a mechanism for removing a BOT member with unexcused absences for three consecutive months.
- Article VI - Committees: Provides for electing the entire nominating committee; increases the term from one to two years and provides term limits.

Motion:

Sara Slate asked for a motion to approve the proposed bylaw revisions. Sara Anderson moved the motion and Lois Lee seconded the motion.

Discussion: El Parent suggested that a word in Article II section 2 be changed.

Amendment Motion:

A motion was made by El Parent to change Article II, Section 2 to read: Interested persons between thirteen through sixteen years old may be received by the Church as Junior Members and be entitled to

all of the benefits of Membership except the privileges to vote at annual or special meetings of Members and of service as a Trustee. Joanne Curtis moved the motion and Mira Frederick seconded.

The motion was unanimously approved.

The main motion to approve the proposed bylaw revisions was unanimously approved.

Petition to Change the Name of the Church

Rick Sandler explained that at the December 12, 2011 Board of Trustees meeting, a petition was presented to the board by church members that proposed that the name of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota be changed to the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Sarasota. The petitioners asked that the proposed item be discussed and voted on at the church's 2012 Annual Meeting.

In compliance with the church's Articles of Incorporation, the Board of Trustees passed a resolution that proposed Article I of the Articles of Incorporation be amended in its entirety to read: The name of the corporation is The Unitarian Universalists Congregation of Sarasota. The board submitted that motion to this meeting.

But before members take up that motion, Rick reported, one of the original proponents of the petition, Dee Widder, wished to make a subsidiary motion to refer the Board's motion to an ad hoc committee for further consideration.

Motion:

Dee Widder made a motion that the Board's present name change motion be referred to an ad hoc committee of three persons to be named now by the chair, including at least two former presidents of the congregation, with instructions to consider amending the motion to propose that the name be changed to Unitarian Universalists of Sarasota, to elicit opinions of the members as it sees fit, and no later than June 30, 2012 to recommend to the Board that it resubmit the name change motion to the membership with or without such amendment; and

that this congregation direct the Board to duly submit the committee's recommended motion to a called meeting of the membership as soon as practicable after receiving it, but well before the next annual meeting. Tom Dente seconded the motion.

Discussion: Rick Sandler explained that the approval of this motion would not bind the congregation at a later special meeting to approve any resulting recommendations of the ad hoc committee. It was also noted that the ad hoc committee could consider other name change proposals. Dee stated that the costs for changing the Articles of Incorporation would be \$35. She did not have cost estimates for new signage.

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If the name of the church was changed, it would be very easy to notify Google about any word changes. A member asked if we could vote on the proposed name change today. The Articles of Incorporation mandate that members be notified at least 30 days in advance about any changes to the Articles.

The motion was approved.

Motion

Rick Sandler made a motion to approve the appointments of Dee Widder as Chair of the Ad hoc Committee, with former UUUCS Presidents, Jim Raudabaugh and Sara Anderson as members. Susan Brucklacher seconded the motion.

The motion was approved.

Presentation to Rick Sandler

Julie Leach and Dick Happy thanked Rick Sandler on behalf of the Board of Trustees and church members and friends for his years of service to the church as a board member, vice president and three years as president. Dick and Julie presented Rick with a teak bench that will be placed under a tree near the church parking lot. An engraved plate with Rick's name and his years of service as president will be affixed to the bench.

Nominating Committee Report

June Braggalla presented the following slate of candidates:

Name	Position	Term
Julie Leach	President	2012-2013
Susan Isgar	Vice President	2012-2013
Donna Allman	Treasurer	2012-2013
Ruth Agnew	Secretary	2012-2013
Catherine Bonner	Trustee	2012-2014
Jim Keeney	Trustee	2012-2014
John Stinespring	Trustee	2012-2014
Jeanie Craig	Trustee	2012-2013
Jim Raudabaugh	Nominating Committee	2012-2014

In compliance with Article VI, Section 2 of the UUUCS bylaws, retiring members of the Board of Trustees are appointed to the Nominating Committee. They are Pat Liebert and Don DeMaio. The continuing members of the nominating committee who are serving their second year are Lura Bradberry, Joanne Curtis, Cathy Cyrus and Sue Moreland. Continuing on the Board of Trustees are Pete Van Peenan and Molly Robinson. A motion to accept the entire slate by acclamation was made by Marie Keeney and seconded by Sue Sherman. It was approved by acclamation.

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Rick Sandler thanked retiring board members Dick Happy, Sara Slate, Pat Liebert and Don DeMaio for their service. He also thanked staff members Roberta Druif, Judy McGrath, Katherine Isabelle, John Irvin, Robert Lischetti, Jan Dorsett and the Rev. Roger Fritts for all of the hard work that they do on behalf of the church.

Treasurer's Report

Dick Happy reported that he is very optimistic that we will meet our 2011-2012 budget, ending the year in the black. Pledges, income from special events, rentals and our endowment income have contributed to our success. Our reserve contingency fund stands at \$99,000 and our repair and replacement fund has approximately \$33,000.

Budget

Roberta Druif, Director of Finance and Operations provided details about the 2012-2013 budget. Church members and friends have pledged \$308,000 in pledges. It is expected that when all of the pledges are received, the church will meet its pledge goal of \$316,474, a 16% increase over last year's pledges. The church will receive less endowment income this year due to the downturn in the economy, but our rentals, special events income and pledges will help with that shortfall. Expenses this year include a 3% raise for staff, an increase for building and grounds budget as well as the service initiative budget increase. The budget for advertising has also increased. Roberta noted that website budget is 31% less due to the efforts of Don DeMaio. The total budget for the 2012-2013 year is \$453,274.

Motion:

Roberta asked for a motion to approve the proposed budget, Julie Leach moved the motion and Donna Allman seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 1:10.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Slate,

Secretary