

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Miami
Minutes Board of Trustees Meeting
March 10, 2010, Emerson Room

Welcome

David Traupman

- President David Traupman began the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Present: Dick Burnside, Beverley Cardona, Tom Edwards, Mary Figuera, Martha Harrison, Rick Homer, Selva Joseph, Pat Mellerson, Rev Kathy Schmitz, David Traupman

Guests: John Bost, Ann Burnside

Additions/Deletions to Agenda

David Traupman

- David Traupman stated that the budget draft would be tabled to next month.
- He said that there would be discussion about the Nominating Committee under the topic of Congregational Governance

Inspiration

Rev. Kathy Schmitz

Board Retreat Check-In/Follow-Up Discussion*

- David Traupman invited the Board Members to check in on their reflections on the Board Retreat of 2/20/10.
 - Some members were displeased by the choice to use a large part of the retreat for focusing on communication and interpersonal relationship issues with one member, when the described purpose and intentions for the retreat had been otherwise.
 - Some members were accepting of that choice and felt that positive things had surfaced.
 - Suggestions for the future by various members included:
 - Need for clarity on appropriate ways to evaluate leadership
 - Continuation of the process of developing a Covenant of Right Relations, as well as practice of compassionate ways of implementing it
 - The need for a small group to facilitate conflicts and misunderstandings as they arise – e.g. ministerial committee, transitional team, conflict management committee
 - Need for acceptance of different leadership styles
 - Need for addressing conflict in leadership styles
 - Need for ways to hold people accountable for uncivil behavior
 - Improve communication
 - Need to define our true vision and goals
 - A need to reinvent ourselves
 - A future retreat for discussion on diversity

February Minutes* – Reading and Approval

Martha Harrison

- The February Minutes were approved. Selva Joseph made the motion and Pat Mellerson seconded it.

Ministerial Transition

David Traupman

- Interim Minister Search Team & Timeline*
 - David Traupman stated that April 15 is the deadline for the application to the UUA for an Interim Minister.
 - Kathy Schmitz said that she had spoken with Ken Hurto and John Weston about the congregation's next minister.
 - She stated that there were two options: an interim minister or a consulting minister.
 - After discussion on these options, a poll was taken: 7 people were in favor of an interim minister, 2 in favor of a consulting minister. It was decided to move forward with applying for an interim minister.
 - Rick Homer recommended that there be 3 members for the Board Ministerial Search Team.
 - David Traupman asked for volunteers: Rick Homer, Dick Burnside and David Traupman volunteered.
 - Rev Kathy Schmitz recommended that the congregation have 3 specific goals to focus on for the upcoming year:
 - A Covenant of Right Relations for the whole congregation
 - Developing Multicultural Competence
 - Organizational Size – transitioning to a mid-size congregation

- There was agreement on a focus of these goals.

Interim Minister's Report*

Rev. Kathy Schmitz

- The Interim Minister's Report was accepted.

Congregational Governance

- 2010 General Assembly Delegates
 - David Traupman and Rev Kathy Schmitz said that some people have mentioned that they want to go to General Assembly this summer.
 - At the May Board meeting, there will be a vote on the delegates.

Nominating Committee

- A meeting will be held of the Nominating Committee at which time a slate of candidates for the Board will be presented.
- David Traupman said that if members think of a good candidate for the Board, she/he could talk to Reed Olszack to suggest that person.
- The Nominating Committee now consists of: Reed Olszack, Chair (elected 2008); Bill Turner and Roxane Pickens elected 2009, Susan Hangge elected 2008, and Barbara Byrne (elected 2007). One additional member is needed for the committee to replace Andy Bunce. The board will review candidates and vote for a replacement at the April meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Mary Figuera

- * February 10 P&L Report
 - Mary Figuera stated that, because of a late SmartStart March rent deposit, the congregation has \$5,000 that was not reflected in the report.
 - Mary Figuera found 2 boxes of cash designated for Haiti, from an unknown source. She will send the money to the UUSC.
 - It was announced that the audit committee is short 2 people.

Finance Vice President Report

- 10-11 Budget Draft*
 - David Roelant was unable to attend the Board Meeting.
 - David Traupman stated that the 2010 – 2011 Budget Draft is a work in progress.
- Stewardship Committee
 - David Traupman said that the Stewardship Committee had met last Saturday.
 - They had assigned mentors to various members. The members will be receiving a letter with the name of their mentor.
 - The committee is on task and on target.
 - The committee members are: Margaret McAlister, Sandy Howard, Alice Lingswiler, Jesse Walters, David Traupman and Irv Loibman.
 - The focus at the present time is on pledge commitments.
 - An Annual Event will be planned and is tentatively scheduled for May.

Executive Vice President Report*

Selva Joseph

- Selva Joseph said that the Alliance wants to attract younger members and are planning to have Chinese food and a Chinese-American speaker for the May 1st meeting.
- She said that for the Social Justice meeting in April there will be a speaker and talk about Haiti.
- She said that Music Horizons had met and had discussed the cottage sessions.
- She reported on some of the events at the last Council Meeting of February 24th:
 - Sandy Howard had led an exercise on Multicultural Competencies
 - Jeff Reiter and the audio visual committee will work with training people to operate the equipment purchased by Charlie Behrens.
 - Sandy Howard had discussed the Stewardship Committee.
 - Selva stated that there was a need to approve the Instructions for the Use of the History Room.
 - RE is working on the Chilli Challenge and an Easter Breakfast.

Committee Presentations/Proposals

- Archives Task Force
 - The Archives Task Force discussion was tabled until next month's meeting.

- Selva Joseph stated that the Instructions for the Use of the History Room proposal will be voted on at the next meeting as well.

Old Business

David Traupman

- 4/9-11 FL District Annual Assembly
 - David Traupman said that registration is now open for the FL District Annual Assembly to take place at the Miami UU Congregation 4/9 – 11.
 - Volunteers are needed for various activities at that time.
 - June Harbett is collecting the names of people who can house visitors.
 - The main events will take place on Saturday April 10.
 - Dick Burnside is workshop coordinator.
 - Gini Coulter will be the keynote speaker.
- 6/23-27 General Assembly, Minneapolis, MN
 - Registration is open for General Assembly scheduled for June 23 – 27.

New Business

- There was a discussion about the recent email to Board Members from Tom Edwards regarding the use of Styrofoam cups. Some members felt the language of the email was inappropriate. There was no decision about the use of Styrofoam cups.

Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

* indicates supporting documents were presented

Respectfully submitted by Martha Harrison, Clerk