

APPROVED

**First Unitarian Church
Annual Congregational Meeting
May 20, 2012**

- I. Meeting is called to order at 12:00 p.m. by our president Dave Wisteich.
- II. It is determined that there is a quorum (see list of members present attached).
- III. Invocation is provided by Rev. Wiltshire to begin the meeting.
- IV. Approval of Minutes of Congregational Meetings
 - A. Minutes from Annual Meeting May 22, 2011 were presented. Tom Platt moves to approve the 2011 annual meeting minutes. Bette Asplund seconded the motion. The vote goes unopposed and the motion carries.
 - B. Minutes from Special Meeting February 5, 2012 were presented. Tom Platt moves to approve the February 5, 2012 special meeting minutes. Roger Birdsell seconds the motion. The vote goes unopposed and the motion carries.
- V. The minister's report is presented by Rev. Sian Wiltshire. Written report is presented in the annual report.
- VI. The President's Report is presented by Dave Wisteich, President of the Board of Trustees. Thanks to all the board members and Rev. Wiltshire for all their hard work this past year. A written report is presented in the annual report.
- VII. The Treasurer's report is presented by Alice Bentley, Treasurer. The status of the current budget is reviewed and it is determined that as of April 30th, 2010 we are \$10,816.00 in the black for the current fiscal year. Alice reports that as of April 30th we still have 16% of our pledges that have not been received and we have two months to go from this point. The month of February and March both ran a monthly deficit. The full report is presented in the written annual report. Gary Metzler notes that we have made the final arrangements for the Kathy Curtis Memorial fund money. Shortly after the collection of the funds, ½ of the balance collected was given to Step Wise. At this time the other ½ of the balance in the fund will be given to Step Wise and this item will be permanently removed from the back page of the monthly fiscal report.
- VIII. The 2012-2013 budget is presented. Fern Hamlin asks how many pledges have come in to date and what dollar amount we have as of date. Bob Asplund reports that this information was given to the board two weeks ago at the Board of Trustees meeting but he does not have the numbers today. Dale Gibson explains that he does not feel comfortable passing a budget without knowing how much pledge money we have in for our next fiscal year so far. Melanie Smith Guillaume would like the board or finance committee to give the congregation statistics and numbers so that everyone can compare our stewardship campaigns from year to year.

Dave Wistreich mentions at this time that GSMS gave First Unitarian Church an option for a third year lease. This is only a 1 year option. The rent has increased by \$429.00 per month which is reflected in the proposed budget. Barbara Williams asks if we have looked into others options such as sharing with other spiritual institutions. Anne Mannix

answers that the Site Selection Task Force looked into a room at the Century Center and a Hilton Garden Inn. Both were in the range of \$15,000.00 per year, which is substantially less than what we are spending now. Both facilities seemed quite interested in renting to the church. Dave clarifies a point by explaining that GSMS could come to the table next year and not offer us a lease option at all.

Elena Wake asks why we have so much money in line item #990. She explains that the last settled ministry search committee did not spend this much money. Sian explains that the UUA recommends that this amount be budgeted for a settled minister search.

Anne Mannix moves to approve the annual budget as presented. Bill Stevens seconds the motion. The vote passes with one opposition.

- IX. The slate of officers is presented. Fern Hamlin feels we are in violation of Article 7 of our Bylaws by not having a printed slate of officers for the meeting today. Roger Birdsell explains that if we nominate people from the floor today we are not in violation of any bylaw. Roger Birdsell nominates David Mayfield for the office of vice President of the Board of Trustees. David accepts the nomination. Roger Birdsell nominates Gail deSommer for the office of Trustee on the Board of Trustees. Gail accepts the nomination. Roger Birdsell nominates Elizabeth Scarborough for the office of Endowment Committee. Elizabeth accepts the nomination. Bob Asplund nominates Joe Gress for the office of Trustee on the Board of Trustees. Joe accepts the nomination. Elizabeth Scarborough nominates Fern Hamlin for the office of Secretary on the Board of Trustees. Fern accepts the nomination.

Our Slate of Officers for the 2012-2013 fiscal year are as follows:

President : Robert Asplund (Vice President to President)
Vice President: David Mayfield
Treasurer: Alice Bentley (continuing)
Secretary: Fern Hamlin
Trustee: Mary Alice Hardy (continuing)
Trustee: Rich Wallace (continuing)
Trustee: Gail DeSommer
Trustee: Joe Gress
Endowment Committee: Dale Gibson (continuing)
Endowment Committee: Chuck Leone (continuing)
Endowment Committee: Elizabeth Scarborough

- X. Selection of Nominating Committee

Roger Birdsell nominates Dave Wistreich as the chair of the nominating committee. Dave accepts the nomination. Bob Asplund nominates Lynn McDonald for a position on the nominating committee. Lynn accepts the nomination. Dave Wistreich nominates Marilynn Shawl for a position on the nominating committee. Marilynn accepts the nomination. Dave Wistreich nominates Mary Beth for the position as alternate on the nominating committee. Mary accepts the nomination.

Dave Wistreich moves we accept the nominations for all offices and the nominating committee. Bill Stevens seconds the motion. The vote carries with one opposition.

Our Nominating Committee for the 2012-2013 fiscal year is as follows:

Dave Wistreich (chair)
Lynn McDonald
Marilynn Shawl
Mary Bethe (alternate)

XI. Approval of Amendment to the By-Laws

After congregational review, Kevin Barry suggested a friendly amendment to the written proposed amendment to article V of the by-Laws. Under # 4 Kevin would like it to read, “notice to be delivered physically or digitally” instead of “emailed”. Kevin feels like the word email puts too much constraint on the delivery method. Gary Metzler moves to withdraw this item from the agenda until further info is gathered. Darlene Catello seconds the motion. The vote goes unopposed.

XII. Committee Reports: see printed reports in Annual Report

XIII. The Board of Trustees were recognized for all the work they have done over the past year(s).

XIV. Other Business

A. Melanie Smith Guillaume moves that beginning with the annual report of may 2013, a report be included annually that shows the dollar amount of pledges received in the stewardship campaign by April 30, the percentage of pledge payments received that is already in the operating budget, the percentage of pledge payments received as of the previous fiscal year, the percentage of pledges not paid, the dollar amount of pledges not paid, and all this same information for the previous 4 years. Fern Hamlin seconds the motion. Bob Asplund mentions that he has real concerns about pledge units that take longer to commit. He is not comfortable pressuring people into making a decision quickly if they feel they need more time to decide. Lynn feels we are asking them to decide so that we have clarity and so the congregation knows where we are with our campaign before the annual meeting. Gary Metzler has concerns that this is not the proper place to be voting on this motion. He would like to know who is going to enforce this policy if we vote on it at the annual meeting. He would like to know who would be in charge of making this happen and overseeing how it happens. The vote is taken. 25 in favor, 10 oppose. The vote passes.

B. Dale Gibson is interested in what the Site Selection Task Force is doing at this time. Anne Mannix listed off the members of the committee as follows:

Anne Mannix (chair)
Chuck Leone
Rich Wallace
Kathy Platt

Anne explains that the group is continuing to look at vacant land that is privately owned and land that is owned by the city as well as standing structures. The board has authorized the Site Selection committee to consider properties and land up to a 5 mile radius from the city center. The committee will research and disseminate

pertinent information to the congregation in a timely manner. Anne will circulate a list of criteria to the congregation so that people who find properties know if it will qualify for further exploration.

XV. The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Minutes were recorded and transcribed by Allyson Kricheff