

UUFBR Board of Trustees Meeting

Minutes September 2021

Date: September 23, 2021

Time: 7:00 PM

In Attendance:

Board Members:

Barbara Messick

Louis Merlin

Patrick Larson

Ron Lovell

Sandy Troiano

Ron Roth

Guests:

Reverend Harris Riordan

Jim Smith

John Tilton (appointed to the board during this meeting)

Mitch Major

Celia Hirsch

Ric Troiano

Emil Kessler

Agenda Item 1: Chalice Lighting

Ron provided an impromptu chalice lighting about the purposes of the meeting.

Agenda Item 2: Called to Order 7:07 PM

Called to order by Sandy Troiano.

Agenda Item 3: Approval of Minutes

Minutes from January Board Meeting

Sandy moved to approve the minutes from the August 2021 board meeting. Ron Lovell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Sandy moved to waive the reading of the Congregational meeting minutes. Barbara seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Louis moved to approve Congregational meeting minutes from the special meeting on Sept. 12th. Ron Lovell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 4: Appointment of New Board Members and Co-President

Sandy nominated John Tilton to complete the term for former board member Carrie Viles on the Board of Trustees. Ron L. seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Sandy nominated Barb Jensen to serve for former board member Louise Malusis on the Board of Trustees until the next Congregational meeting. Ron L. seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Sandy moved to appoint Barb Jensen as co-president until Feb. 2022 meeting. Barbara M. seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 5: Capital Campaign Report

Harris reports that the group of volunteers who want to run the Capital Campaign would like the Board to be in charge of decision making for the campaign because we are on a compressed time schedule. They have set a goal of trying to raise a pool of money before the launch of the campaign.

Harris suggests that Paul Libert would be a suitable treasurer for the Capital Campaign and Robert Duchemin would be a suitable bookkeeper.

Louis moved that the UUFBR Board of Trustees be responsible for running the Capital Campaign. Sandy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Sandy moved that Paul Libert be the Treasurer for the campaign and that Robert Duchemin be the bookkeeper for the campaign. Ron L. seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 5: Minister's Report

Harris reminded us that we need to start the process for searching for an Interim Minister. She recommended an Interim Minister search committee comprised of members both on the board and from the general congregation. The first deadline for submitting the required paperwork is April 7th, but we should be in communication with the Transitions ministry at UUA much sooner than that. She recommended that the board identify a point person for this outreach as soon as possible. She also recommended a number of Bylaws revisions to make our Bylaws consistent with current practices, in which an Interim Minister is appointed for 2 years and in which a Congregational vote is not usually required for appointing an Interim Minister. The UUA can offer guidance on recommended Bylaw revisions.

Sandy moved that Barbara Messick be our conduit to the UUA for the Interim Ministry process. Ron L. seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Betty Tilton offered to assist Barbara.

Agenda Item 5: VP-Facilities Report

Patrick has sealed up the majority of the interior holes. Arrow Exterminators performed a wildlife control service where they sealed up exterior holes. They also placed rodent traps in the attic.

Arrow Exterminators also performed an insect control service for roaches. This was a one-time treatment only.

At some point, all exterior doors will need new weatherstripping.

The powerline burial project has seen some progress. FPL accepted the plan. Go Electric will need to have power disconnected for several days in order to complete the line burial work and some installation.

We have received four estimates for replacement of the flat roof. Low bid was \$6300 but had very limited scope. Three bids \$9500-\$10400. We need to replace roof before mold remediation. VP is working on estimates for mold remediation. The Board decided to delay moving forward on this project until the VP offers a specific recommendation for a firm to engage at the October 2021 meeting.

Patrick provided a status update of fire alarm system for sanctuary and main building. We are waiting for feedback from City of Boca on proposal from Caribbean Fire on a minimal system of \$14,000. Two more fully scoped out estimates have also been received. Patrick suggests that we might want to invest more than the minimum required system, for fire safety and building protection. It is difficult to compare estimates for fire safety projects because they are guessing what the City of Boca will require. We don't have a specification in hand.

Question for consideration: Should we hire an independent engineer to write up a specification, and then bid it out to fire safety companies.

Patrick is likely to authorize McNano Tree Care to commence the tree trimming.

Agenda Item 6: Treasurer's Report

Omitted this month due to the Treasurer's absence.

Agenda Item 7: Sharex Committee Report

WellHealth is currently paying for the parking lot to do Covid testing. We will receive \$5,000 in total.

Huber Arts foundation has reached out to us.

Kol Ami stopped payment and stopped using the facility.

We are also negotiating with schools to rent the RE building. Patricia fired the broker we originally hired, and we are now engaging a second broker.

Agenda Item 8: Finance Committee Report

Mitch Major reports that the cash balance is about \$62,000 so we probably can proceed on some capital projects now.

Agenda Item 9: Endowment Funds Resolution Committee Report

Louis reported that there is a large degree, but not complete, agreement about purposes of the Endowment Fund. This general agreement includes that it should be used to support UUFBR, that the independence of the Endowment Committee should be preserved, and that the corpus of the Endowment Fund should be preserved as much as practicable for long-term development.

The committee plans to hold a Congregational listening session and may propose Bylaws revisions if necessary.

Mitch Major suggested that all grants from the Endowment Committee should be approved by the Congregation in a Congregational vote, just as the annual budget is approved by the Congregation.

Emil noted that the Congregation has spoken in terms of the obligations of the Endowment Committee to the UUFBR capital campaign, and that therefore outside grants would not be appropriate at this time. Sandy suggested that Mitch and Emil raise these issues at the next Endowment Committee meeting.

Agenda Item 10: Membership Committee Report

Ron Roth had a meeting of the membership committee with 16 people in attendance. Many different ideas were discussed. He plans to hold a survey on their top ten or top 5 ideas for action.

Agenda Item 10: Religious Education Council Report

Louis reported a recent meeting of the RE council with new people – Judy Keiser, Louis Merlin, Alison Rognas, Frank Murray, and Harris. A Trunk-or-Treat event is planned for Friday Oct. 29th. Amy Glenn has agreed to restart the adult RE program about exploring other faiths. Louis is starting a WhatsApp group for intergenerational social events. Judy is looking into organizing an OWL sex education program for young teens.

Agenda Item 11: Healing Justice Report

The City of Boca Raton is looking to redevelop Dixie Manor. This would displace many low-income African American residents. Jim Smith has composed a letter opposing the redevelopment of Dixie Manor and it has been sent by members of Healing Justice and Harris.

Agenda Item 12: Denominational Affairs Committee Report

No update

Old Business

Agenda Item 13: Shared Review of Financial Statements

Dropping from the board agenda.

Agenda Item 13: Ethical Business for Contractors

Dropping from the board agenda.

New Business

Ron Lovell will be moving on Sept. 30th to Washington State. Ron resigned from the UUFBR Board.

Louis mentioned findings ways for Congregants to talk to each other. Louis and Ron Roth will explore creating a space on Discord and testing it out.

Celia Hirsch announced the next meeting of the landscape committee on October 3rd.

The Board would like to work on a thank you gift to Gail. Suggestions are welcome.

Ron Lovell reported that our new web hosting service is HostGator. We can set up any email we want xxx@uufbr.org. Ron Lovell and Mary Wickensheimer are the current admins who can set up the system.

Board Welcome during Service

October 3 Louis

October 10 Ron Roth

October 17 Barbara

October 24 Sandy

October 31 John

Next Board meeting will be Thursday, Oct. 28th

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 8:44 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Louis Merlin