

Olympia Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Board Meeting Minutes • November 17, 2005

Members Present: Tim Ransom, Mike Harbour, Margaret Knudson, Melissa Denton, Mary Walton Cameron, Samantha Ritchie, Bernard Brady, Art Vaeni, and Shelley Ferer

Members Absent: Peter Teets

Special Guests: to stop in later - Rev. Berei Istvan from Kissolymos, Romania, and Wendy Tanner and guests of the SPACE committee.

Secretary's Minutes: Approval of October 13 revised minutes with clarification of the Share the Plate selection process – see below. Approval of October 27 budget meeting minutes.

Treasurers' Report: Not available; request that it be e-mailed to board when the treasurer returns. Amount pledged has increased by approximately \$3800 in response to letter. There are still a number yet to respond to pledge requests; somewhere between 33 and 50. Darlene is verifying membership of those not pledging.

Administrator's Report: Written and accepted. Giving Tree project and Thanksgiving feast are going to happen! Care Committee is responding to member who needs a ride to church.

Minister's Report: Written and accepted.

Art as "Good Officer" in district acts as a minister to ministers in clarifying guidelines, and supporting ministers in working with "healthy congregations" which involve conflict resolution report review, among other items as requested.

The Minister's report is e-mailed to Darlene.

Liaison reports:

B&G report: Tim will discuss issues later. Mary-Walton said that they would like a copy of the document that shows their insurance coverage. *Tim said that he is working on getting that for them.

R.E. committee: Tim met with new leadership, Eric Trimble and Tina Smith. Looking forward to an active and involved leadership.

Adult R.E. (Mike H.) is looking for new leadership. Peter Taylor is quite involved in the book group and wishes to step down from chair of the Adult R.E. committee. *Mike will put together an announcement to be read Sundays.

ACTION ITEMS

Ordination request by Carol McKinley: copy sent to board for request of ordination in the early spring of 2006. Board needs to approve request then approval sought by the congregation. Cost is estimated at \$800. Costs cover some travel, dinner for attending ministers, reception, etc.

OUUC Board Minutes November 17, 2005

Bernie requests that the budget line item for funding source be identified. Motion to approve ordination, provided any conflicts with the budget for funding event are resolved, made by Mike and second by Samantha R. Unanimous sense that this is an honor for the church. Carol is a leader and has contributed immensely to the church and should be so honored. Motion Approved.

Rev. Berie Istvan: stopped in with Tom Mumford to meet board. Introductions were made and there was a general review of his week's activities before heading on to a partner church near Cleveland.

Meeting Logistics: see handout of upcoming meetings - budget, board, congregational, etc. (Art came in.) It is important for board members to attend as many of the scheduled meetings as possible. PNWD meeting in mid-February added to list. *Melissa will send out a notice to the leadership committee reminding them of the meeting between services November 27 where the proposed 2006 budget will be discussed. December board meeting changed to December 15. Congregational meeting on December 18 between services - quorum is needed. *Tim will write up an announcement for Sunday services about the congregational meeting.

Marriage Equality sponsorship: Congregation asked to sign on as support for Marriage Equality Day, January 23, 2006, which we did last year. Measure lost by just one vote in 2005 legislature. Sponsors asked for monetary support as well. Contribution needs to be out of 2005-year budget. Motion to sponsor event and to send \$50 made by Melissa and seconded by Mary-Walton. Motion passed.

Lacey Fellowship: Requests permission to set up a small table to sell Buddhist flags as a fundraiser for their church. Date requested is December 4. Fundraising committee has already approved it; seeking approval of the board. Margaret moved to approve on condition that the date does not conflict with a prior scheduled event using that space. Ginger bread houses will be ready for pick-up that day, but have been outside under the canopy. Arlene Andersen of the All Souls Fellowship will contact Darlene about including an announcement of the sale in the Sunday program. Mary-Walton seconded the motion. Motion approved.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Share the Plate selection process clarification: the SJ committee will make the selection of Share the Plate recipients. Criteria for selected group include: 501 C 3, local, review mission statement and budget need, variety, etc. Melissa moved that selection process be handed to SJ committee in full, and to notify board of selection in advance on a rolling four month period, as groups are selected for two month intervals. Seconded by Mary-Walton. Motion approved. Share the Plate dinner invitation December 9 to recognize recipient organizations.

SPACE Committee arrives: Discussion items continue after SPACE Committee report.

Space Committee status report: Wendy Tanner, Harmon Eaton, and Kurt Rader who did the drawing. First task is to assess current property – to determine what can be done at current site. Pre-submission conference fee of \$85 paid to city for meeting scheduled for November 30. Drawing shows addition of 20,000 additional feet. Expansion of sanctuary and addition to the

OUUC Board Minutes November 17, 2005

east of three stories (two stories with a balcony) with access from Division St. No financial consideration at this time – only task to find limitations to current site. Proposal is based on space committee guidelines. Parking spaces one limiting factor – spaces double to 134 spaces - requirement is one space for 4 seats in sanctuary. City role is to provide us with limitations to biggest footprint sustainable at site. After pre-sub conference engineers are assigned to project. Cost is \$85 per meeting. Committee will report back at December board meeting. Current task is just to get assessment of current site. All comes together in the SPACE Committee's strategic plan presentation at the congregational meeting on April 23, 2006. That plan will include a recommendation of whether to stay on the current site and expand our facilities or to look for a suitable facility elsewhere. SPACE committee's first part is to locate appropriate professionals to help us understand the suitability of the present site to expand our facility. The next steps incorporate a stay or go decision. Art stated the importance of keeping our purpose for being and our mission in mind.

Discussion items continued:

Annex Update: Ray and Gypsy have departed. They did quite a bit of cleaning. Scott and Linda are now co-hosting. Scott is a mechanic and continuing with upkeep as Ray had. The middle school and youth groups are back to using the building and it will be used for the OWL class. The furnace was still under warranty so bill of about \$300 was considerably less than first expected. Funding for upgrades will come from the B&G budget, but a new source will have to be found, perhaps the sinking fund or from savings from architecture fees not being incurred.

OUUC Support for Out of the Woods/Homeless Services: Ten years of support for the homeless in the community source of good will. Important to focus resources outward not just inward. Need to more explicit in our role and relationship with OTW and the community at large. Notes from talk by Michael Durrall on the importance of community outreach. Discussion continued on balance among various financial, program, and social responsibilities, churches mission, and vision. Discussion to be continued.

December 25 Service(s) clarification – one service at 11:00am – per Art.

*Items requiring action, notices written, info to be sent, etc.

Meeting adjourned.

Next board meeting - December 15, 2005 7:00pm at the church.

Respectfully submitted,

√ Margaret Knudson Co-Secretary
Samantha Ritchie Co-Secretary

Tim Ransom, President