

Unity Church-Unitarian
139th Annual Meeting of the Congregation
November 21, 2009
Minutes

Attending: Trustees: Carol Bauer (chair), Barbara Ford (secretary), Bill Etter, Laura Smidzik, Bob Utke, Ray West

Executive Team: Rob Eller-Isaacs, Janne Eller-Isaacs, Barbara Hubbard, Leon Dunkley

Others: Alan Maclin, Parliamentarian

Convene Annual Meeting

Board chair Carol Bauer called the Annual Meeting to order at 10:13 a.m.

Invocation

Board member Bob Utke offered the invocation.

Election of Parliamentarian

A motion to approve Alan Macklin as parliamentarian was made by Collin Rust and seconded by Lorelee Wederstrom. The motion was approved unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes of the November 22, 2008 Annual Meeting

A motion to approve the minutes from the November 22, 2008, Annual Meeting was made by Gary DeCramer and seconded by Ken Green. The motion was approved.

In Memoriam

Rob and Janne Eller-Isaacs read the names of those church members who have died since the last annual meeting.

Congregational Business

- Ministries:

Leon Dunkley, Director of Congregational Life, spoke of the many and varied ministries at Unity Church. Some of the highlights include congregational worship, religious education, Wellspring Wednesdays, food ministries, music in many forms, the pastoral care team, Pathways to Membership classes, the Anti-Racism Leadership Team and the racial justice outreach team, social justice and environmental outreach teams, and many more.

Two newer members spoke of their experiences of becoming a part of the Unity Church community. Bryan Smith told of finding spiritual support and a place to grow together as a family. Bob Gestner came with friends who are members, joined a covenant group, felt at home, and encouraged the church to “keep up the good work”.

- Trustees:
Congregational Survey: Board member Bill Etter summarized the results of the congregational survey which helps the board in its responsibility of monitoring the work of the Executive Team. The survey is rich with data that can help in planning for the future.

Anti-Racism Leadership Team Report: Drew Danielson reported that this has been a year of progress toward our goal of becoming an anti-racist institution. A new charter has been approved for the group. The importance of personal commitment to this work was stressed.

Generosity Ministry Team: Lisa Brosseau explained that the mission of this team is to review applications submitted by members of the congregation for organizations that receive 70% of our Sunday offering each week. Criteria for selection of these non-profits include missions and values that reflect our core values, groups that have some connection to Unity Church-Unitarian and a connection to local needs, and organizations that are of a size that our contributions would make a significant difference. This year, \$68,426.75 was given to 52 organizations in our community.

Proposed By-Law Amendment: Laura Smidzik presented the attached proposed amendments to our by-laws. The changes were proposed to clarify and update our governing documents. **A motion to accept these changes was made by Ellen Green and seconded by Betsy Moore. The motion was approved unanimously.**

Slate of New Trustees: Board member Ray West described the nominating process and presented the slate of new trustees:
Nominated for three-years terms were Craig Allen, Beverly Heydinger, and Dan Zigmund. A motion to elect these candidates was made by Pauline Eichten and seconded by Leila Poullada. The motion was approved unanimously.

Two trustees have been appointed by the board to fill unexpired terms: Sue Babcock for a two-year term and Bill Etter for a one-year term. **A motion to confirm the appointment of Sue Babcock to a a two-year term and Bill Etter to a one-year term was made by Mark Foster and seconded by Ken Green. The motion passed unanimously.**

- Property Report:
Barbara Hubbard acknowledged and thanked the facilities staff for maintaining the building so beautifully. The new outdoor signs, a gift from Karen Pike, were celebrated. The chapel has been renovated and reclaimed as a sacred space thanks to a special gift. Capitol investments included a new boiler, repairs to the roof of the bell tower, and a new stove in the kitchen. The mortgage on the church-owned duplex on Holly Avenue has been paid off and the first floor of the duplex renovated. The church grounds have blossomed thanks to the garden team. A thorough study of facility use has been guided by Lorelee Wederstrom as part of our strategic modeling effort.

- Budget for Calendar year 2010: Barbara Hubbard summarized the proposed budget and the assumptions underlying its projections. Questions were raised and discussed. **A motion to approve the budget was made by Allen Giles and seconded by Tom Merritt. The motion passed unanimously.**

Words of Thanks from the Board of Trustees to the Executive Team and Staff

Board chair Carol Bauer thanked the executive team and the entire staff for their leadership and dedication on behalf of the Unity Church-Unitarian community.

Acknowledgement of Outgoing Board Members

Ann Nelson, Tim Sheehan, Bob Utke, and Carol Bauer were thanked for their vision and commitment on behalf of Unity Church.

Closing

Board chair Carol Bauer adjourned the November 2009 Annual Meeting at 11:45 a.m.

Minutes approved on November 20, 2010

Submitted by:

Barbara Ford, Board Secretary