



## Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Santa Rosa 17 March 2011

Meeting Called to Order at 6:03 p.m. by Andrew Hidas

Members Present: Bob Barrows, Ann Chambers, Bonnie Daines (Co-Treasurer), Laura Jean Hageman (Co-Treasurer), Andrew Hidas (President), Mary Louise Jaffray (Vice President), Lois Nagle, Cathie Wiese (Secretary), Craig Work

Members Not Present: John Farison, Phyllis Heagney

Non-members Present: Chris Bell (Minister), Terry Graham (Recording Secretary), Alan Proulx (Financial Stewardship Council rep)

Opening Words: Chris - Reading of "God is One" ("...you need not think alike to love alike...") by Francis David

Minutes of 17 February 2010 were approved as submitted.

### Open Mic:

- (1) Alan Proulx, Financial Stewardship Council representative, initiated discussion regarding a motion of the 14 March 2011 FinStew meeting requesting that the BOT approve establishment of a second Ever Bank account which would be interest-bearing and consist of Special Funds excepting the Emergency Fund. Discussion ensued. Cathie Wiese moved and, after discussion but prior to a second, withdrew her motion instructing FinStew to create the account. Further discussion and questions centered upon a myriad of details, resulting in the item being tabled until the next BOT meeting.
- (2) Chris read a thank-you note from a couple who were visitors at a recent service in anticipation of moving to the Santa Rosa area. The note spoke well of the congregation's welcoming manner.

### Krasny Fundraiser Report

Andrew reported an estimate that the fundraiser netted approximately \$8,200. Discussion ensued on the unique "intellectual stimulation" that was remarked upon by many attendees, and that the "benefactor" concept was well-received by the congregation. BOT initiative in leading a major fundraiser each year was discussed. Andrew suggested that as congregational leaders, the Board should lend its weight to fundraising efforts whenever possible, given its centrality in



ensuring the health of the congregation. Mary Louise suggested that greater attention to specific individual assignments is warranted for future fundraising events.

#### Annual Pledge Drive Update

Bob reported that 95 pledges, approximately one-half of the pledge units, totaling \$177K have been received. The neighborhood meetings have generally experienced less attendance than previously hoped. A 27 March meeting at the church after the Sunday service for those who didn't attend the neighborhood meetings is planned but requires increased publicity.

#### Treasurer's Report

The BOT passed a motion on 16 December 2010 directing that the Congregation open an account with Ever Bank for the mandated separate Emergency Fund. The motion included the list of authorized account signers and authorized Janis Brewster to obtain account information. However, the differentiation between moving funds and obtaining account information is inconsistent with the policies of Ever Bank. Mary Louise moved that the 16 December 2010 motion be rescinded and replaced with the corporate resolution to include, by name, the President, Vice President, Secretary, Co-Treasurers and Minister as authorized signers on the Emergency Fund account. Motion seconded by Laura Jean. Motion passed unanimously (9-0) by show of hands.

Month-end January financials and a summary "Treasurer's Report to the Board" were distributed. Highlights of the Summary Report presented by Laura Jean included (a) total fundraising through February is approximately \$9K less than the annual budgeted \$36K, (b) pledge income FY projections approximately \$5K below budget, (c) projected FY expenses approximately \$9K less than budgeted, (d) projected FY Saturday breakfast approximately \$3K in the red, (e) recent property tax appeal resulted in a \$2K reduction.

A "Summary of Expenses & Requests for 2011/12 Goal Budget" handout indicates that the 2011/12 Goal Budget is 13% greater than the 2010/11 budget. Existing expenses comprise a 4% increase, commitments (PCD dues, UUA dues, North Bay Sponsoring Committee dues and Future Expenses, e.g. sabbatical and building system replacement) is 64% greater than the current budget and Staff Compensation, Programs & Physical Infrastructure is 12% greater than this year's budget.

Current focus of the 2011/12 Budget Task Force (BTF) has been goal budget expense refinement, transitioning to focus upon increasing revenue. Laura Jean requested input from the Board regarding how the BTF can assist in arriving at



the 2011/12 budget. She suggested developing scenarios reflecting various funding/expense conditions to facilitate addressing priorities. Andrew made the issue an agenda item for the 21 April meeting. Bob expressed the goal of having the canvassing data complete no later than that meeting.

Craig revisited the lack of definition and lack of understanding of the new budgeting process amongst the BOT members as well as amongst congregation committee members. Bonnie clarified that the process is still in an evolutionary stage as the new governance system continues to be applied to specific budgeting activities and procedures. Relevant ACTION still in process from the 20 January meeting: Bonnie is chairing an ad hoc committee to document the budgeting process.

#### Goal Status Report - RE Task Force

Cathie reported that steady progress being achieved. Last meeting was 15 March.

#### Goal Status Report - New Member Contacts

Cathie reported successfully executing contacts. Mary Louise suggested that a feedback report from the BOT members would be appropriate.

#### Goal Status Report - New Bylaws Report

Cathie reported that substantial progress is being made. Draft version being developed.

#### Goal Status Report - Youth Group Interaction

Mary Louise reported that Deborah Mason intending to address the issue with the Youth Group members. Andrew and Mary Louise emphasized that the liaison position requires definition. Ann and Cathie reiterated that a role meaningful to the youth be delineated.

#### Goal Status Report - Board Transparency

Andrew commented that transparency efforts continuing, specifically activities being distributed via the FOCUS list and newsletter.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Graham

Recording Secretary