



UUCSR Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes  
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Santa Rosa  
15 Dec 2011

Meeting called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Board President Laura Jean Hageman

Members Present

Jeanie Bates, Ann Chambers, Joe Como, John Farison, Laura Jean Hageman (President), Mary Louise Jaffray (Vice President), Lois Nagle, Alan Proulx, Cathie Wiese (Secretary), Craig Work

Members Not Present – Peter Wilson

Non-Members Present

Chris Bell (Minister), Sibyl Day (Acting Recording Secretary), Susan Dickey (RE Committee Member), Deborah Mason (RE Director), Art Rosenblum (Co-Treasurer), and Amy Young (Co-Treasurer)

Opening Words by Rev. Chris

Agenda Review - No changes

Minutes - Approved as amended, with the following added to the end of the last sentence of the Community Group report: "to facilitate increased attendance at congregational meetings."

One-on-One Sharing

Open Mic-

Rev. Chris reported that David Templeton was approached about having the Glaser Center as the venue for the week long Santa Rosa International Film Festival beginning next September. In lieu of money payment, the festival representative proposed having a permanent movie screen installed (16' and about an \$8,000 value). **ACTION:** The board agreed for David to have further discussions with the representative and keep the board informed. **ACTION:** Rev. Chris will ask David to get more details of the festival's week day schedule; how concessions will be handled; a timeframe for decisions; and whether or not the installation of the screen requires permitting.

Children's RE Task Force report to Board

Deborah Mason, DRE, reported that the RE program is focused on attracting and retaining new families; informing the wider community about the program; and having enough volunteers to run the program. The RE Task Force is working on making a clear and consistent statement about what is taught in RE. The Adult RE class, The Art of UU Parenting, has continued and has

seven participating families. The Youth Group is planning for General Assembly in June, and the MUUGS group recently visited the Sts. Peter & Paul Russian Orthodox Church. RE would like a commitment from the board for improving RE and family ministry. Deborah suggested that the board co-host an after-service open house in the RE wing; and consider RE needs in the budget negotiations (new shelving system, paint, etc.).

#### Treasurer Report

Budget Task Force – Art noted that there are budget timelines that need to be met. Next month budget requests need to be submitted to the Budget Task Force. The Service Auction netted \$21,287. **ACTION:** The budget request form from last year needs to be located and distributed.

Pledge Drive Task Force – Alan Proulx, co-chair of the task force, said that the theme for the pledge drive has been identified and it will be a one-on-one canvass. Andrew Hidas's firm will help design the brochure. March 4th will be the kickoff with a Sunday sermon and the drive will continue for two weeks. The task force will next meet on January 9<sup>th</sup>. **ACTION:** Alan will talk to Art about the budget needed for promotion of the pledge drive, and Alan will email more details before the next meeting.

#### Board Approval of consolidated Board-Evaluation of Rev. Chris

**ACTION:** The evaluation of Rev. Chris, as consolidated and reviewed by the board, was approved. The motion was moved by John, seconded by Craig, and passed unanimously.

**ACTION:** Laura Jean will review the report with Rev. Chris.

#### Decision to join the Coalition of Welcoming Congregations

There are 19 UU congregations in the Bay Area that are members. Dues are \$100 a year. For this year, the money for the dues will come from the Board's Leadership Development budget; then classified as dues in next year's budget. There is a requirement for a liaison. **ACTION:** Moved by Cathie, seconded by Joe, and passed with one abstention (John), UUCSR will become an associate member of the Coalition of Welcoming Congregations in the Bay Area. **ACTION:** Jeanie agreed to be the liaison. **ACTION:** Rev. Chris will fill out the form and give to Janis for payment of the dues.

#### Board approval of Chalice Lighter grant application

This is a grant used for growth, and would be used for next year's revival, including hall rental, advertising, and promotion. Bill Schultz, former president of the UUA, is committed to attend next year. **ACTION:** Alan will write the grant application on Monday and send it out to the board by email for review and board approval.

#### Goal Groups Reports

Spiritual Life Group – Adult & Children's RE (Peter, Joe, Cathie, Rev. Chris) – Cathie reported that she met with 10-12 members on December 11<sup>th</sup> to brainstorm ideas about RE. The group will

meet again after the holidays. **ACTION:** Cathie will write up and distribute to the board a list of ideas from the December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Community Group (Alan, Jeanie, Lois, Mary Louise) – Lois reported that she and Mary Louise attended a meeting of the membership committee, whose new chair is Sybil Hunt. Alan suggested having donation envelopes in pews and also available when the baskets get passed. Jeanie reported on her meeting with Deborah about UUCAN and ways that the congregation and board can learn more about UUCAN and the North Bay Sponsoring Committee. **ACTION:** Jeanie will send information to the Focus List regarding UUCAN being on the agenda for the congregational meeting.

Infrastructure Group (John, LJ, Craig, Ann) – Regarding Governance, Laura Jean had a brainstorming session to plan a Council Powwow On January 7<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 to 4:00 p.m. in the board room. Rev. Chris will facilitate this meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup>, and it will deal with how councils work and what role they play in the budget process. Also, regarding what groups interact and what ones may be extraneous to the council system. John will meet with the Operations committee regarding planning the development of the physical plant. Financial Stewardship will send their charter to the board for review and feedback, probably before the January board meeting. **ACTION:** Council Powwow on January 7<sup>th</sup>. **ACTION:** Agenda item for next month's board meeting regarding what to present at the next congregational meeting about progress on the Congregation's short-term goals.

#### Update on Fundraising Efforts (Alan, Lois, Mary Louise, LJ)

Alan reported on a brainstorming meeting attended by David Templeton who suggested that fundraisers not be "events" which would compete with Glaser Center "events". David suggested that UUCSR sponsor a dress rehearsal at the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Playhouse. Alan learned that this could net \$750 to \$1,700; however, the only rehearsal available this year would coincide with the pledge drive in March and therefore is not a viable option. Laura Jean reported that a crab feed could net between \$835 and \$1,700, but would be fairly labor intensive. The Roger Corman concert (his appearance donated by Tom Bond and Laura Jean) should bring in \$3,000 to \$4,000. For next year, we will consider for fundraisers a 6<sup>th</sup> Street Playhouse rehearsal and Rev. Chris in Conversation, possibly with an author on a book tour. It was agreed that a targeted initiative or funds for something new is a better reason for a fundraiser than a budgetary shortfall. **ACTION:** Table the issue of extra fundraising for now.

#### Board membership for 2012/2013

Cathie Wiese, John Farison, and Laura Jean Hageman agreed to serve another 2-year term. Ann Chambers and Craig Work are finishing their second term and retiring from the Board.

#### By-law Revisions

The Board suggested that only the changes in Section 2 of Article 4 be on the agenda for the winter congregational meeting. This section, as amended, will have board members nominated

and elected at the winter congregational meeting, to begin serving their terms in July. There will be an opportunity for an after service discussion about the bylaws' amendment prior to the congregational meeting. The revised section of the bylaws would be voted on at the congregational meeting, and, if passed, the board members would be elected at the same meeting. **ACTION:** The proposed amendment will be emailed to the board by Cathie, and will be considered at the next board meeting. **ACTION:** Laura Jean and Cathie will see that the notice about the after service discussion gets into the January newsletter.

Final reflections, questions, appreciations...

Laura Jean asked that board members think about volunteers to be recognized at the next congregational meeting. She also noted that it would be nice for board members to write notes or cards of appreciation to the volunteers and put in the "thanks giving" box in the lobby.

Closing Words

Jeanie read "Dreams" by Langston Hughes.

Meeting adjourned at 9:21 p.m. Next Board meeting is on Thursday, January 19, 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sibyl Day