

**The Community Church of Chapel Hill Unitarian Universalist
Minutes of Board Meeting of March 11, 2008**

Present: David Abels, Barbara Chapman, Alyson Grine, Joel Grodensky, Mary LeMay, John Leopold, Erich Lieth, Susan McDaniel, Joan Meade

Ex Officio: Morris Hutchins, Jay Miller

Absent: Richard Perry, Susan Spalt, Penny Ward

Minutes: Laurence Kirsch

Erich Lieth called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm. Susan McDaniel lit the chalice.

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda consisted of the following items:

- Services Auction
- Policy making church tobacco free
- Interim Minister's Report
- Nominating Committee Report
- Rental Agreement
- Board Evaluation/Covenant
- February minutes

Joel Grodensky moved acceptance of the consent agenda, except that: a) acceptance of the Nominating Committee Report and the Rental Agreement means that the Board accepts receipt of those documents but does not necessarily accept those documents' recommendations and terms; b) acceptance of the Board Evaluation/Covenant means that the Board agrees to fill out the evaluation form and return it to Mary LeMay no later than April 2; and c) the February minutes are amended as per Joan Meade's re-wording of the Ministerial Search Committee item. Susan McDaniel seconded. Unanimously approved.

REPORTS

1. Peace & Justice Petition

Tracy Kuhlman, who is a member of the Committee to End Environmental Racism, explained the petition opposing the Rogers-Eubanks Road neighborhood "waste transfer station or any additional waste disposal facilities." She told of a 35-year history of broken promises by the City of Chapel Hill to the neighborhood, and that the waste transfer station would involve trucks rumbling through the neighborhood an average of every two minutes. She wants the Board to

sign the petition, which is on the letterhead of the North Carolina National Association for the Advancement of Colored People dated February 2, 2008.

Susan McDaniel moved that the Board approve of the Church signing the letter. John Leopold seconded. 9 ayes present plus 2 ayes (Penny Ward and Susan Spalt) in absentia, no nays or abstentions. Passed.

2. Executive Committee Report

Joel Grodensky reported that the Executive Committee spent its whole meeting setting the agenda for today's meeting, plus worked on Jay's budget adjustments.

3. Council Report

Erich Lieth said that the Council may soon recommend that the Board approve additional staff to maintain the Church facility and supervise rentals.

4. Governance Committee Update

Susan McDaniel and Susan Spalt have agreed to be on this committee to assess governance models. Barbara Chapman volunteered to join this committee.

5. Fundraising Revision Update

Erich Lieth said that the Council is considering revisiting fundraising approaches, and he hopes to see volunteers from the Music Committee and elsewhere. Kay Donovan and Susan Spalt have already volunteered. John Leopold and Morris Hutchins also volunteered. Either Susan or Erich will chair the task force.

6. Policy Update

The Policy Review Task Force is reviewing the Church's current written policies and considering recommendations for potential updates.

7. Action Table

The Board looked at the Action Table that is in Attachment 9 to the agenda.

8. Use of the Manse

Joel Grodensky reported that the Manse Long Range Use Committee is considering possibilities for uses of the manse property and will present proposals to the Board. The building has roof and plumbing problems, but is generally in good condition. The current rental contract expires in June.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Candidate Week

Erich Lieth announced that the prospective schedule for Candidate Week includes the following:

- Sunday, April 27: the candidate delivers sermons at both services
- Tuesday, April 29: at 6 pm, the candidate will meet with the Board; at 8 pm, the Council will join for dessert.
- Sunday, May 4: 10:30 am, single service; 11:45 am, congregational meeting.

The Ministerial Search Committee has requested the congregational meeting to vote, by paper ballot, on calling the minister. The Board Chair, Susan Spalt, will chair the meeting. The Board needs to announce the meeting at least 14 days in advance. The bylaws state that 40% of the members are a quorum, which can be counted by “tellers” who check people in as they arrive. A call is good if there is an 80% or higher affirmative vote. Proxies are allowed, by which one person can represent one absentee. The candidate will not be present at the congregational vote.

Mary LeMay moved that there be a congregational meeting at 11:45 am on May 4 for the purpose of considering the recommendation of the Ministerial Search Committee. John Leopold seconded. Unanimously approved.

2. Benevolence Policy

Alyson Grine said that, for income tax purposes, the Church should create a Benevolence Fund that the Board would disburse to Church members in need according to the recommendations of a committee set up for this purpose, where specified criteria guide disbursements. Donations directly from individuals to other individuals are not deductible for tax purposes. Donors can recommend but not designate donees.

Joel Grodensky moved that Board authorizes creation of the Benevolence Fund. Susan McDaniel seconded. Unanimously approved.

3. Budget Adjustment

Jay Miller, John Leopold, and Andy Hencke have created a balanced budget for 2008. Joan Meade moved to accept the revised budget. Joel Grodensky seconded. Unanimously approved.

Jay Miller asked whether he should refinance the manse property mortgage, which would save interest only if our ownership will continue for more than another year. The sense of the Board is that the ownership will so continue. Alyson Grine moved to direct the Treasurer to refinance the manse. Mary LeMay seconded. Unanimously approved.

Andrea will be doing parking work for 2 hours per week. There is a waiting list of 30 people wanting spaces. There was discussion of whether our parking rates are below market.

ADJOURNMENT

The next Board meeting is Tuesday, April 15 at 7 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.