

**The Community Church of Chapel Hill Unitarian Universalist
Minutes of Board Meeting of November 18, 2008**

Present: Barbara Chapman, Alyson Grine, Joel Grodensky, Mary LeMay, John Leopold, Erich Lieth, Susan McDaniel, Joan Meade, Susan Spalt, Penny Ward

Absent: David Abels, Richard Perry

Ex Officio (whole meeting): Maj-Britt Johnson

Ex Officio (meeting with Council): Ivy Brezina, Katie Donovan, Spence Foscue, Andy Hencke, Lori Hoyt, Sarah Insch, Jay Miller, Scott Provan, Eleanor Schaefer, George Thompson, Cecilia Warshaw, Bob Weston, Becky Wilkes

Minutes: Laurence Kirsch

Susan Spalt called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Penny Ward, the Board Member of the month, lit the chalice and offered a reading.

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda consisted of the following items:

- Letter of Agreement with Pianist Al Zaranka
- Interim Endowment Committee
- Congregational Meeting Agenda
- Basketball parking
- October Board minutes

There was discussion and informal agreement about several changes to the Letter of Agreement, which will be made by Erich Lieth. Jim Magaw has withdrawn his name from the Endowment Committee, so we need two more people to get a full committee of five people.

Susan McDaniel moved to accept the consent agenda, as amended. Erich Lieth seconded. Unanimously approved.

REPORTS

1. Roof Contract

Susan Spalt said the contract has been signed.

2. January Retreat

The retreat will probably be in the Manse. The agenda will be determined at the January Board meeting.

3. Kick-Off Sunday-Share The Plate

This will occur January 25, 2009.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Outreach Policy

The draft policy for “Giving Beyond Our Walls” adopts an old policy to present circumstances. Alyson Grine wondered how this outreach policy is related to the Benevolence Fund, to which Susan Spalt replied that the draft policy (Attachment 4 to the agenda) needs to be revised so that the outreach policy does not apply to “families or individuals.” The Board discussed further changes to the draft policy, both in its wording and its substance (e.g., means of funding).

Alyson Grine moved approval of the interim outreach policy, “Giving Beyond Our Walls,” subject to amendments recorded by Susan McDaniel. Mary LeMay seconded. Unanimously approved.

2. Budget Meeting with Council

This portion of the meeting reviewed and revised the budget that is to be presented to the Congregation next month.

Jay Miller began the discussion by explaining the budgeting process. Each committee made budget requests. Jay accepted almost all requests in the initial budget he presented to the budget committee, though he did make some judgment calls that he thought necessary. Jay then added costs like utilities and estimated mortgage payments. He also estimated incomes, including a 7% increase in pledge receipts.

Andy Hencke led a tour of the budget spreadsheet, including budget assumptions. There was a wide-ranging discussion of priorities and details, and of the question of whether we should be financially conservative given the prospective economic slowdown. Susan Spalt summarized the discussion by noting that the Board had have identified four priorities for increased budget if the money can be found: increasing staff salaries to more closely follow inflation increases (COLA); restoring the information technology services (ITS) budget to a healthier level; increasing reserves; and increasing honoraria. John Leopold notes that increasing staff salaries, ITS, and honoraria will only take about \$4,600; and he is in favor of changing the budget accordingly right now.

Alyson Grine moved that the Board propose to the Congregation that the printed budget be adopted with the following revisions: \$4,600 of additional pledge income; \$1,600 of additional ITS funding; \$1,000 of additional honoraria; and \$2,000 of additional COLA. Erich Lieth seconded. Unanimously approved, except for abstention by Mary LeMay.

3. Action Items

- Review the interim outreach policy in November 2009
- Convert mortgage budget line to go up to \$50,000 for 2010 budget
- Plan parking price increases
- Set procedure for quarterly budget review by the Board

CALENDAR NOTES

- November 2009: Review interim outreach policy, “Giving Beyond Our Walls”

ADJOURNMENT

The next Board meeting is Tuesday, December 16, at 7 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 pm.