



**Board of Trustees Meeting of the  
First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Antonio  
November 16, 2016**

**A. Gathering** – Jim Noël called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and requirements for a quorum were met. Betty was appointed *ad hoc* recording secretary in Anne’s absence.

**Members present:** Jim Noël (President), David Ringer (Vice President), Jennifer Johnson (Treasurer), Betty Dabney (Trustee-at-large), Richard Keith (Trustee-at-large), April Chase (Trustee-at-large), and Gale Morrow (Trustee-at-large)

**B. Opening words** were provided by Richard and the chalice was lit.

**C. The Board Covenant** was read and April was appointed process observer.

**D. Check-ins** were shared and the agenda was finalized.

**E. Consent agenda**

**1. Review of October 2016 minutes**

Minutes were approved with no corrections.

**2. Treasurer’s report – October 2016**

There have been several weeks of low receipts. Some money was moved from investment account to operating account. This will probably be temporary.

**3. Minister’s report**

In Rev. Josh’s absence there was no minister’s report.

**4. Vice President’s report**

David noted a few areas from committee reports:

**i. Leadership Development –**

The Committee met on October 26. The LDC survey was open until November 9. Committee job descriptions are ongoing. LDC has been asked to provide input to the Strategic Plan.

**ii. Facilities –**

A/C replacement for the choir area, maintenance contract and security system replacement have been ordered. Carpenter ants in the sanctuary are being treated. Grounds raised ca. \$600 from their FUUnd Lunch in October. The Campus-wide Aesthetics Assessment/Inventory is in progress. Mark Smith visited with them – head of the new IT group.

**iii. Trust Fund of Endowments –**

The TFOE questioned why they were Board Goal #1. We will discuss this at a later meeting. A list of possible new names for TFOE is being developed. They asked for Board input on a stewardship model that would include relationships of all fundraising entities. They want some guidance on how to go forward. Does the Board have priorities with respect to different funds? We need to clarify who has authority for determining this. David and Jim will discuss roles with Josh at the next Executive Meeting, and this will be a future agenda item. TFOE provided input to the STP questions. The STP will help to frame some of these issues.

**5. President's report**

Jim participated in the monthly conference call of the Central Region and was interviewed by WOAI on the same-sex marriage issue.

**6. Stewardship report**

Betty reported that the meeting on October 23 was attended by at least 23 people, and that the meeting may be repeated and combined with the Finance Committee and Trust Fund of Endowments on January 15. Mary has identified Friends to be targeted for Membership and pledging. The Chili Cook-Off FUUnd Lunch on November 13 raised over \$733. We could publicize the idea that non-Members can pledge.

Betty moved to accept the consent agenda reports, and Richard seconded. Passed unanimously.

## **F. Old Business**

We agreed to cover new business first

### **1. Monitoring review: Policies 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, 2.7**

Betty moved and Richard seconded that this be tabled until next month so it can be discussed with Josh; it was passed unanimously.

## **G. New Business**

### **1. Strategic planning committee questions**

Questions have been finalized and the SPC is in process of getting input from various groups. David got input from the Board on the questions.

For testimonials, Richard suggested this structure:

Who am I?

Why am I here?

How am I involved?

The Board Contingency Fund #502 can cover \$300 of costs for the SPC. Richard moved that the Board approve expenditures up to \$300 this year for the SPC costs, and April seconded. Passed unanimously.

### **2. Discussion on deficit concerns**

April led this discussion. Financial solvency is the first obligation of any non-profit. Our financial challenges are mainly on the side of income, not expenditures. We need to address the importance of meeting pledges throughout the year. Periodic updates would be useful. We need to say how the money is spent and list the accomplishments of the church, in clear and compelling language. Perhaps a bulletin board in the sanctuary foyer would be a way to do this, or a "Did You Know?" column in the newsletter. We should consider a line item for reserves. Jim and David will share this discussion with Rev. Josh.

## **H. Christmas Eve Eggnog Social**

Gale and Betty volunteered to be coordinators. The Board personally donates the expenses for refreshments: ca. \$20/person. We will need people to clean up.

## **I. Closing**

1. **Process observation** – Gale noted that we ran over schedule. Jim had difficulty keeping track of time with the revised schedule. Gale suggested we meet at 6:00 next month and have a holiday pot-luck. We will ask the other members to see if this is OK. We may meet on the 14<sup>th</sup> instead of the 21<sup>st</sup>.
2. **Closing words** – Gale provided the closing words and the chalice was extinguished.

J. **The meeting adjourned** at 9:38 p.m.

Submitted by Betty Dabney 11/17/2016