

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
December 8, 2005

Meeting called to order by Harry Campbell at 6:45PM

Board members present: Harry Campbell, Sabina Omvik, John Omvik, Irving Yabroff, Jim Beebe.

Visitors present: Nan Bixler, Linda Krenicky, Julie Doyle, Ann Campbell, Rev. Nancy Roemheld

Announcements:

Jim announced 1 new member: Denise Gomes. Our current membership count is 105. Since Dec. 2004 we have gained 9 new members and lost 11.

Consent Items:

Resolved that the minutes of the November meeting be approved as they appear on the web site.
Approved.

Minister's Report: Attached

Finance Remarks: Attached after correction

This report, asking for additional contributions to cover the projected deficit in income will be read in the Sunday Service and sent, with a return stamped envelope, to all members and friends. This action is subject to approval by the Finance Committee.

Canvass: Discussed by Linda who is the Canvass Team Coordinator

Small group meetings with members rather than individual contacts planned. Group solicitation has been shown to work well.

Need two kinds of canvassers: those who will host the meetings and provide the meal, and those who will give the pitch.

Walt will produce the brochure.

Canvasser training will begin on February 4.

Rev. Nancy will announce the March 12 Kickoff Luncheon on February 12. She will give sermons supporting the canvass during that period.

Safe Congregation Task Force:

Harry delegated the RECCY to decide what needs to be done and to do it.

The previous report will be distributed to the Board. The RECCY will report to the Board at the January Board meeting on their progress.

Charters, Guidelines:

Nan will send a copy of the previously produced guidelines to the Board.

Irving will send a URL reference to the Chalice Circle Committee to the Board.

Other Items:

Julie reported that the Caring Committee, which she is forming, needs more people.

Jim reported that he is gathering statistics on how many first time visitors come back a second time. After the first visit, returning people are called guests. He is also monitoring the number of guests that become members.

Jim reported he is working with Suzanne Jo to define the job for and find someone to be a volunteer coordinator.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00PM

Yours respectfully,

Irving Yabroff

Attachment 1: Minister's Report

To: Board of Trustees, UUFLG
From: Nancy Roemheld, Interim Minister
Re: Report
Date: December 8, 2005

Since the November Board Meeting, these are the things that have been happening with your minister:

Sunday Services

I have offered three worship services and met with the committee. I have designed an outline for the folks who do the service with me. We are using the title, Worship Associates.

Kari Sparks, DRE, and I have done one Intergenerational Service – UU Service Comm. “Guest at Your Table,” and are planning the Christmas Eve Service, which is Intergen. We plan another in the spring – “Flower Communion.” We’re also talking about doing one in early summer. In these Intergenerational Services, the children are actively involved, taking part in the service. We

are also inviting the children to light the chalice and lead the Unison response in the regular Sunday Service.

Music Committee

Met with Music comm., led by Phyllis Reed, accompanied by several of our musicians, to plan the music for Xmas Eve.

Membership

Met with Jim and Harry – Jim has outline for contacting prospective new members – an information form for new members to fill out and a list of Fellowship lay leaders. I believe he's reporting on this. Harry has lay-out for new directory.

Our most recent new member is Denise Gomes, who signed the book this week. She is a single parent with two children, ages 8 and 11. She has the children living with her, but on every other week-end they visit their father.

New member pledges

When a new person signs the book, I talk with them about making a pledge toward the finances of the Fellowship. I spoke with Suzanne Jo this week and she is returning her pledge card by next week. Denise Gomes is doing the same. Karen Hyams and Phyllis Foxcroft joined before I got here – so, I'm meeting with Phyllis next week and Karen has not returned my call yet.

Committee on Ministry

With the advent of a full time minister, the guidelines for the COM are somewhat changed. The members are, Linda Krenicky, Julie Doyle and Bill Scarvie. I meet with them monthly.

Here are the guidelines from the UU Minister's Association as they apply to Interim Ministers:

“The most important functions of the Comm. On Ministry are:

1. to aid the minister in carrying on an effective ministry by being available for counsel;
2. to keep the minister advised concerning conditions within the congregation as they affect relations between minister and members, with the main thrust to strengthen and improve relationships;
3. continually to interpret to the congregation the nature and scope of work of the minister, including clarification of role expectations for the minister and development of realistic priorities for minister and members; .

Caring Committee

We are reorganizing the Caring comm. Julie Doyle is leading the effort. After a plea at a recent Sunday service, she had eight people sign up saying they are willing to help.

I have contacted the Tucson congregation and they are sending their guidelines for this type of committee, they call theirs, “Friends in Deed.”

Pastoral Care

I have had some extended phone conversations with people who have distanced themselves from

the Fellowship, and have had two different lunches with two such folks who seem to be slowly coming back in.

I've spent some time with Barbara Kalmoutis who is now back in her apartment at Corinthian House.

Attachment 2: Treasurer's Report

2005 has been a particularly challenging year for charitable organizations due in large part to the tremendous natural disasters we have experienced: Tsunamis, Hurricanes, Earthquakes you name it, they all seemed to happen this year. Many have written about donor fatigue, while others have seen some of their heart felt charitable donations being spent on questionable items.

It is with this in mind, that I come to speak to you about another charitable organization near and dear to all of our hearts: The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Los Gatos. I for one am very proud of the progress we have made over the last year with our commitments to fulltime professional ministry and religious education programs. The 35% increase in last year's canvas helped to make this all possible, and I am happy to report that our pledge income is actually tracking ahead of plan.

Nonetheless, we are projecting a budget shortfall of roughly \$13,400 due mostly to loss of rental income and less than expected Sunday contributions. For those of you who wish more detail, check the report posted on our website under "Finances" entitled "The State of UUFLG Finances". The board has reacted to this shortfall by asking all committees to minimize all non essential spending, and we are investigating other areas to save including Sunday speakers and building & grounds. Our budgets are very lean to begin with, so there is little fat left to trim.

Therefore in this season of giving, I am asking you all to consider an additional gift to help us maintain the high quality programs we have grown accustomed to. We are a very small close knit community. It is very easy to see how our contributions are being utilized. Every dollar goes to making our Fellowship a better place, a more rewarding experience, a stronger family.

Any additional contributions you are able to make before the end of 2005, no matter how small, are deductible from your income tax for this year. Please send a check with the note "Additional contribution" in the memo field or write "Additional Contribution" along with your name on one of the cash envelopes in the Sunday baskets. If you cannot make an additional contribution right now but can increase your pledge payments during the next six months, you can contribute by increasing your pledge. Just send a note saying how much you wish to increase your pledge. As usual, you will receive a receipt for tax purposes for all of your contributions and pledge payments made during 2005 in January, 2006.

Thank you once again for your support.

John Omvik, Treasurer