

Minutes

Board of Trustees, First Unitarian Church of Oakland
February 26, 2008 – 7:03 to 9:35

Trustees Present: Richard Bruehl, Claire Eustace, Karen Eng, Jon Greer, Jack Macy (Treasurer), Chris Palm (Secretary), Mark Savage (President), and Gail Schulz.

Others Present: Michelle Favrealt, Dan Goss, Judith Hunt, Charles Masten and Charla Weiss.

1. **Consent Agenda** – Approved the revision of the Board Stewardship Policy, and acknowledged the Executive Team’s report. Pulled for later discussion in the meeting were the January 2008 minutes and the Church Manager’s report.
2. **Vision 2012** – Claire Eustace had attendees break into groups of two or three to discuss the following topics:
 - a) Why is becoming a multi-racial church important to you.
 - b) What are you willing to do to make Vision 2012 a reality.
3. **Senior Minister’s Raise** – Due to the budget shortfall and the senior minister’s request to rescind her raise, the Committee on Ministry has rescinded their recommendation to raise the senior minister’s salary. Gail Schulz moved, Jon Greer seconded a motion to rescind the raise previously approved by the Board for the 2008 budget. Approved.
4. **Budget Update** – The Executive Team presented a balanced budget. Discussion ensued regarding the Board’s responsibility to raise an addition \$17,000 in fundraising for the Spirit Funds. There was discussion about letting a church family use the stored piano on which we pay monthly storage costs. The Executive Team will discuss this with Musicopia and the music committee. Since the budget had changed significantly since it was approved in December, the board needed to approve the new budget. Jon Greer moved, Claire Eustace seconded a motion to approve the budget as presented. Approved.
5. **New Member Canvass** – The board agreed to canvass new members after each ingathering. The EexecutiveTeam will provide a list of members from the ingatherings in November and February to Chris and Gail. They will then assign these members to each board member. Biographies about the new members and the new stewardship brochure are available in the board’s February folder.
6. **Annual Meeting** – Lunch and childcare will be provided. A \$5 donation for lunch will be requested and the church budget will subsidize any additional costs.

The following items will be on the agenda:

Election of new trustees: Jon Greer for an unexpired term (2008 to 2010) and Noemi de Guzman, Dan Goss, and Charles Williams for three-years terms (2008 to 2011).

Gail Schulz moved, Richard Bruehl seconded the motion to recommend to the congregation the motion to ordain of Laurel Leifert in 2008. Approved.

Richard Bruehl moved, Gail Schulz seconded the motion to recommend to the congregation the motion to ordain Chris Long in 2009. Approved.

Jon Greer moved, Chris Palm seconded that the following recommendation for approval of an endowment fund be presented to the congregation. Approved.

"We, the members of the First Unitarian Church of Oakland, share a vision and obligation to sustain the Church for future generations, as past generations have sustained the Church and its gifts for us. In this spirit of stewardship, we therefore resolve that the Board of Trustees should establish for this purpose an endowment fund as an asset of the Church, to be called initially the Wendte Endowment Fund, in which the principal shall be maintained in perpetuity, and income may be used for the operating budget and capital improvements. We further resolve that the Board of Trustees should establish a structure and criteria for the governance and uses of endowment principal and income, to be presented and discussed at a forum with the congregation before final adoption by the Board."

7. **Annual Priorities** – The annual priorities were discussed. The board agreed to having Karen and Mark prepare the priorities for the meeting.
8. **Capital Campaign** – Gail Schultz reported that \$1,549,680.26 has been pledged to date for the capital campaign.
9. **Minutes of January 2008** – After discussion about the degree of detail desired in minutes Jon Greer moved, Chris Palm seconded a motion to approve the minutes. Approved.
10. **Church Manager's Report** – The Church Manager's report was discussed. The Board stated that fiduciary responsibility rests with it while the Executive Team has the day-to-day responsibility. The Church Manager raised concern over the number of extra hours people had to work to get their jobs done.
11. **Orientation and Retreat** – Mark Savage presented some ideas on the Board schedule and workload for the coming year, including the suggestion that orientation of new Board members occur in March and the board retreat occur in early April.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eva Bunce, Scribe