

MINUTES

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church Board of Directors

March 16, 2010

7:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Attendees: Susan Bettinger, Claudia Harris, Robert Smith, Elysse Orchard, Jared Davis, Sarah Boswell, Barbara Jarrell and Susan Caldwell

Absent: Amanda Lawrence, Stanton Dossett

7:30

Lighting of the Chalice/Reading of our Covenant

7:34 – 7:35

Approval of Minutes

No minutes from last time

7:35 – 7:42 p.m.

BPOD

4/4 Claudia Harris and Susan Bettinger

4/11 Sarah Boswell and Jared Davis

4/18 Elysse Orchard and Robert Smith

4/25 Susan Bettinger and Claudia Harris

7:42 – 8:00 p.m. **Building and Grounds**

Only two bulbs work in the sign...Kevin has to break the bulbs in order to get them out. Stanton was going to call someone to come and look at it. Sarah says that at least now we can read it, coming from the south, but coming from the north, we can only sort of read it. **Susan Bettinger will call Stanton about calling someone to give us an assessment of what the sign needs and an estimate of what it will cost. She'll let Kevin know she's doing this.**

Susan Bettinger will call Stanton about calling someone to give us an assessment of what the sign needs and an estimate of what it will cost. She'll let Kevin know she's doing this.

Kevin is trying to deal with the gutters on the sanctuary side of the building. He and John Allen cleaned the lower ones but a professional needs to clean the higher ones. **Susan will ask Alex to call around and get estimates for the gutters, and for getting the windows cleaned. Let's also ask about gutter capping (caps over the gutters that allow water in and not leaves, etc.) Follow-up: Alex has made calls about the gutters and the first company is coming out on Wednesday morning.**

Jared investigated the Energy Audit. It was going to cost \$930. The Green Group decided that a better use of the money would be to make a list of the improvements we know we need and spend the money for that. Sarah asked about the light poles out in the circle. Can we find the one death-defying company that does high gutters, windows, and light-pole-painting? That isn't too much to ask. Barbara suggests putting the children on trampolines with paintbrushes.

Barbara is going to sand or paint over some of the parking lot lines and redo them. The ones over by the cinder block garden aren't accessible, even for small cars.

8:00 – 8:30 p.m. **Chaplain's Report** Emerson Award nominee?

Chosen from an outstanding list of nominees was **Dr. Phillip Gates**, who provides free care to children with cerebral palsy to improve their walking. Sherry Walker works with him. Dr. Gates sees over 40 kids a day and does surgery two days a week – all for free. Does outreach in other places, too, including Oklahoma and Panama, as well as here in Shreveport, at Holy Angels. Our Shriners' Hospital was the first ever. It's been bought by LSUHSC – future of the hospital will involve some kind of joint management with the hospital and the Shriners.

Hospital run by Shriners and a corporation in Tampa, FL.

Susan Bettinger will call Dr. Phillip Gates, and then Barbara will send a letter if he accepts.

8:30 – 8:50 p.m. DRE Report, Office Report and Attendance Written reports.

We will hire 2 paid nursery workers - \$2500 budgeted . Jared moved and Robert seconded. Susan will write ad for Craigslist and church newsletter. Range will be \$8-9/hour, commensurate with experience.

Office Report – Everyone loves it – very positive --- Good job, Alex! --- Sarah will ask that Alex take on the responsibility of posting the minutes when she gets them. Jared will pursue the office credit card.

Attendance Report - Attendance is down everywhere – church, meetings, choir. Spring Forward day was especially dismal, but it's all been down. Part of it is a general change in church culture, noted everywhere, and in other denominations besides ours. Church is not the default activity for Sundays any more. Some of it has been illness, vacations and "spring fever," what else?

8:50 – 9:00 Council Report Dionne is finishing Green Sanctuary application – plans to have it ready to submit by Thursday morning, March 18th. Thanks to Dionne and the GS Committee for all the work they have put into this.

Fundraising Application from Green Sanctuary Committee for Heirloom Plant Sale – Approved. Saturday, April 17, 9-2.

Jared will start a file folder for these in the copy room.

Pastoral Care – Barbara has visited Hank at home. Hank and Frances have both had trouble with back pain. They are under a doctor's care and getting help from Bob Wood and other friends. John Rosser is still in the hospital, and Barbara has visited him.

Building and Grounds issues covered in B&G discussion here.

Social Justice – Interfaith meeting with Michael Phillips on Thursday, March 18th. Coates Bluff Clean-Up with A Better Shreveport on Saturday, March 27th.

9:00- 9:05 p.m. Covenant of Right Relations Review and Approval or Edit of Draft Pamphlet **Approved.** Susan and Barbara will format and make available the day Barbara speaks about it , March 28th. It will be voted on either at the May congregational meeting or at a special congregational meeting prior to that.

9:05 – 9:25 p.m. Welcoming Congregation - Calendar and discuss upcoming after-church discussion . Date is March 28th. -- Amanda and Clay will present it. Barbara is asking that office send out a special email to everyone – separate from outgoing message – just about that Welcoming Congregation meeting. Also, Barbara will do a Phone Tree message for whomever that successfully reaches. Barbara believes we need to move ahead with it, and the special notification will probably be more effective than the regular communication anyway.

A question has arisen about the Advisory Commission report and whether or not it will be re-released. If anyone asks, the answer is no. The make-up of the congregation has changed significantly since then and there is no reason to anticipate problems that may never arise.

Barbara's service for that morning will be about the Covenant of Right Relations. She will ask people to abide by the spirit of the Covenant for the WC discussion.

9:25 p.m.

New Business

Nominating committee: Mark Mullens, Bob Jordan and Ryan Self have all accepted.

9:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Sarah moved to adjourn. Elysse seconded. Motion passes. Go home.