

Not Approved

A quorum membership of 50 was counted and confirmed present.

The meeting called to order by Jim Redlich at 12:03pm.

Microphones were made available to the presenters and to the audience respondents. Handouts were made available to the audience membership including the meeting agenda; Minister's Annual Report; Annual Report of the Endowment Committee; Proposed ALUUC Budget; Officer, Board, and Committee Nominations; and Annual Report of the Program Committee. Officers of the Board including Jim Redlich (President), Carol Floyd (Vice President), Tina Layer (Treasurer), Jeffrey Bennett (Secretary), and Reverend Martin Woulfe were present on the panel addressing the membership.

Motion: a move was made and seconded to approve the minutes from last year's annual (6/11/06) meeting. The motion was passed by acclamation.

Reports

President's Report (Redlich)

The congregation size has reached 200 making this a modest sized Unitarian Universalist congregation. Highlights of the year include that there was an Annual Audit held as provided by the Bylaws showing strength in financial matters but other administrative areas in need; a Lay Officiant Policy has been created and approved by the Board; a Personnel Committee has been developed into a more formalized body; the Coordinator of Religious Education, Marla Johnson, has resigned and been replaced with Meg Schnake in a transition that is going well; Small Group Ministries has been developed and is doing well; and a Classism and Racism program has been undertaken this year.

Minister's Report (Woulfe)

53% of the congregation has joined since 2001 when Mary Moore departed from the congregation. There have been 27 new members over the past 12 months. The parking lot has been paved and resealed; and 40 new hymnals have been acquired. The church has been active in the UU District with participation in the Youth Con. Reverend Woulfe has given 28 services, one Christmas Eve service, and 2 pulpit exchange services totaling 31 in all. He has officiated at 11 weddings, 2 unions, and 3 funerals. Pastoral Care has been active with many ill or distressed. Reverend Woulfe continues to serve as the Treasurer for the UUMA and received Final Fellowship recognition from the UUA. The Labyrinth Walk was successfully held on 10 out of 12 monthly nights. Fund raising has been successful with the creation and sales of Bonnie Ettinger's musical CD's, Unitarian Posters and Decals and there is a plan to continue sales of

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these items at the upcoming General Assembly. Thanks were given to many of the congregation for help in a successful year.

Coordinator of Religious Education Report (Schnake)

The congregation has successfully gone through the first half of an “A-B cycle” in religious education programming. The first strand “A” UU Principles was completed this year and the second strand “B” World Religions will be completed next year. Marla Johnson started the year but then departed the position and Meg Schnake began in November, 2006. The Senior Youth Group hosted a conference for 200 area teens and a Peace Rally was held at that time at the State Capitol which was reported in the local newspaper. The OWL group continued its curriculum. The Religious Education program looks forward to rallying members of the congregation for the Playground Initiative.

Treasurer’s Report (Layer)

The congregation experienced a slight increase in budgeted expenses and revenues due in part to an increase in congregation size, and holding two Fantasy Auctions in one fiscal year. The June financial statement, expected out soon, will summarize the year’s financial activities. The other monthly financial statements are present on the ALUUC website for review.

Endowment Committee Report (Kopecky)

Investments at the year’s beginning were approximately \$39,000.00 which have now increased to \$48,200.00 without additions or withdrawals as a result of a strong year of investment growth.

Budget Adoption (Redlich)

The Finance Committee began discussing the budget in February, 2007 and elicited input from the various committees. After several meetings, Barbara Moore developed a proposed budget looking at real expenditures. In this year’s budget, there are equal cash inflow and outflow. Highlights of the budget which is “operational” include that facilities costs increased due to maintenance and repair (at least some attributable to the septic tank backup that occurred earlier this year); and utilities also increased. There was a cost of living increase in the Minister’s Salary Package (salary, fringe benefits, and professional expenses). Support for office staff was increased to \$13,456.00 yearly for a position involving 20 hours per week for an office manager.

A question was entertained from the floor (Braddock): “what about the piano?” It was noted that since this budget is operational, it does not include the projects listed later in the agenda and that both the Piano Project and Playground Project would not be funded from pledges.

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Motion: a move and second was made to approve the proposed budget. The move passed by acclamation.

Bylaws Amendment Proposal (Berkley Moore)

In 2005, there were several Bylaw changes, however there were areas of the Bylaws where name changes were not made. Thus, this year's proposal includes a name change for the endowment fund to "ALUUC Endowment Trust" and a proposal about how closed meetings will be held.

Motion: a move was made (Berkley Moore) and seconded (Penny Wollan-Kriel) to approve the proposed Bylaw Amendments. The motion was passed by acclamation.

Playground Fund (Redlich)

An ongoing needs study has been conducted by the Religious Education Committee and a presentation created and shown to the Board demonstrating the need for a playground costing in the neighborhood of \$20,000.00.

Piano Fund (Redlich)

Bonnie Ettinger has noted that there is a need to improve the quality of the piano and the music generated for Sunday services (the piano is wearing out).

The Board decided to establish funds that would allow those supporting the building of a new playground and procuring a new piano to generate funds. Ultimately, however, the congregation must approve the expenditures. The Board decided to use the Ruth Heckathorn gift to establish matching funds of up to \$10,000.00 each for a new playground fund and for a new piano fund.

A question from the floor was entertained (Glosser) – "what about creating a 'Capital Campaign' as I have seen done elsewhere for this non-budget item?"

(Redlich) The Board has not established a 'Capital Campaign' but if those interested want to pursue such a mechanism, this could be accomplished by the Board in the future.

Question (Dietz): "what is the estimated cost of the piano?"

(Craig Bailey): Bonnie noted that 30 keys on the current piano are weak and in need of repair. The estimated cost for a new piano of \$16,000.00 to \$20,000.00 is reasonable compared with the costs that some churches have undertaken for such things as a new organ in order to provide for service related music.

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Question (Berkley Moore): “supposed that more than \$5,000.00 is generated for either of these funds but then the expenditure is not voted for by the congregation?”

(Redlich): If there were a “no” vote, the Board could arrange to have the money spent for similar purposes.

(Glosser): if the chairpersons of the two groups established for these funds could present at some of the Sunday sessions, this would be very helpful.

(Redlich): There is no limit to the funds that can be collected for these two projects above and beyond the matching \$10,000.00 funds for each.

(Vincent): My view is that money raised for the specific purposes should be returned, not reallocated, if the congregation were to say “no”.

...Further discussion followed with a motion made to not have the funds; this motion was subsequently withdrawn and the issue was removed from the table for further consideration by the Board and further delineation of how the funds might be used if the congregation disapproves the expenditure.

Election of Officers – Nominating Committee Report (Berkley Moore)

Various candidates have been nominated by the committee

President	Mike Haynes
Vice President	Gwen Childs
Secretary	Carol Floyd
Treasurer	Jeffrey Bennett
Members	Delinda Chapman
	Henry Farrington
	Ceceilia Haasis
	Scott Wade

(Point of information) Bill McCall, Carley Mattimore will continue on in office for another year

The Nominating Committee, composed of Debby Hagan, Roger Powers, Berkley Moore, and John Malan will continue on. The Committee on Ministry has members appointed by the Nominating Committee with the approval first by the Minister and the ALUUC Board. This year the Board has approved the appointment of Myra Epping and Rebecca Anderson. They will join

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current members. If Gwen Childs is elected to Vice President of the Board, she has agreed to resign from the Committee on Ministry.

(Redlich): The congregation can proceed to approve the entire slate of candidates or discuss any individual office if there are nominations from the floor. There were no nominations from the floor.

Motion: a move was made and seconded for the entire slate of candidates to be elected. The election was passed by acclamation.

New Business

There was no new business. However, several comments from the presiding panel and floor were made.

(Floyd): as outgoing Vice President, thanks to the committee chairs for the important process of committee revitalization; it is important for the congregation to recruit new membership to the committee structure as an investment in the future developmental pattern. The Board members would like to present two plants to the outgoing President Jim Redlich for his service this year; they are appropriate symbols for a growing church.

(Berkley Moore): Jim Redlich declined an offer of nomination for a second term. We are confident that the incoming President Mike Haynes will do an excellent job. A round of applause was elicited for Reverend Woulfe for his service this year.

(C. Bailey): the next committee night will be July 17 at 7:00pm and those interested in various committees are encouraged to participate; the Program Committee seeks members with innovative ideas for Sunday programming.

The President redirected questions about committees by the membership to Carol Floyd for after the Annual Meeting.

Motion: a move was made and seconded for adjournment. The motion passed by acclamation.

The meeting adjourned at 1:06pm