

Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation
Board Meeting Minutes
June 29, 2004
(July's Meeting)

Meeting called to order at 7:09 pm.

Present: Victoria Vincent, Brian Otwell, Linda Wheeland, Scott Wade, Carol Floyd, Jeff Johnston, Buffy Lael, Fran Giavaras, Shelley Reither, and Rev. Martin Woulfe

Absent:

Guests: Liz Reither

Opening Words: The Board, along with the RE Committee sang Happy Birthday to Board Member, Buffy Lael, as Board Member Shelley Reither and Board Secretary Scott Wade entered with cake and large cookie.

Snacks: Chocolate birthday cake from Board President Victoria Vincent and large chocolate chip cookie from Board Member Shelley Reither & RE Committee Chairperson Liz Reither.

Minutes: Scott Wade presented the final draft of the minutes from the June 10th Board Meeting. **Shelley Reither moved for their acceptance and Linda Wheeland seconded. The Minutes were approved.**

Minister's Report: Rev. Martin Woulfe informed the Board that he concluded preaching on June 13, and the next scheduled service will be September 5th. He delivered the invocation at the Illinois State Senate on June 29th. He stated that from July 1 – 29, he will be “on call” for four weeks, and July 30 – August 15 he will be using his 2 ½ weeks vacation. During this vacation, Rev. Woulfe stated that he will still be here in Springfield for most of it. Pastoral visits continuing at hospitals, homes, and office. Pastoral Care Committee & the Congregation showing lots of support to members. Rev. Woulfe informed about the notes left under a rock by the front door of the church. These notes were denouncing our acceptance of same-sex marriage. Rev. Woulfe informed the Board that our Office Administrator Cindy Stults will be leaving us at the end of July. Stacy Tischkau will help to get volunteers to cover some of the office duties. Materials being prepped regarding wedding celebrant/officiants. ALUUC Members Michael Norman and Beverly Charles are interested. Rev. Woulfe passed out samples from the Bloomington UU Church. Rev. Woulfe also passed out fliers regarding upcoming leadership events sponsored by CMwD & UUA.

DRE Report: None

Treasurer's Report: Linda Wheeland passed out May's Financial Statements. Nothing new to report. **Shelley Reither moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Fran Giavaras seconded. The motion passed.**

REPORTS:

- 1.) **Social Action Policy:** This was tabled to the August Board meeting.
- 2.) **Facilities – Plan for cleaning church:** This was tabled to the August Board meeting.
- 3.) **Church Mortgage with the UUA:** This was tabled to the August Board meeting.
- 4.) **Lay Officers and Pastoral Leaders:** This was tabled to the August Board meeting.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Due to the July's Board meeting being held on June 29th, all decisions voted upon will not go into effect until July 1, 2004 when the newly elected Board official takes over.

DECISION:

- 1.) **Approval of the DRE Search Committee Process:** Victoria Vincent handed out the complete search process and the names on the search committee. She also handed out recommendations from the Committee on Ministry regarding the hiring of a DRE. **Scott Wade moved to approve the DRE Search Process and Committee and Shelley Reither seconded. The motion passed.**
- 2.) **Midsummer's Faire 2005:** Buffy Lael and Fran Giavaras reviewed how the faire went in regards to set-up, the day of the event and finances. Buffy Lael mentioned that the event didn't make as much as last year, but overall the event was a big success and would love to continue this fundraising event. Buffy Lael also requested that the net money that was raised be held for seed money for next year's faire. Board members discussed the positive and negative aspects and other concerns regarding the faire. Dates for the faire next year was discussed, along with possibly changing the date for the congregation's annual meeting. **Fran Giavaras moved to continue with the Midsummer's Faire with the next one to be held on June 4, 2005 and Brian Otwell seconded. The motion passed. Linda Wheeland moved to approve seed money for the faire with the cost to be determined at the August Board meeting and Jeff Johnston seconded. The motion passed. Brian Otwell moved to change the congregation's annual meeting from June 5, 2005 to June 12, 2005 and Shelley seconded. The motion passed.**
- 3.) **Springfieldopoly:** Rev. Woulfe informed the Board that the committee for this fundraiser, which is being chaired by Nancy Standen, would like to give a certain portion of the money raised to a charity or charities. They feel this would be easier to sale the spots on the game board if portions of the proceeds were going elsewhere instead of just the church alone. The official kickoff for this fundraiser is on Monday, July 5th at 7pm. The Board discussed possible charities and if we should have Nancy Standen and the Social Action Committee involved with picking the charities. **Brian moved to direct 10% of the net proceeds to go to a charity or charities to be determined this Sunday, July 4th by a special committee of the board. Jeff Johnston seconded.** The Board discussed whether or not 10% was enough. **Fran Giavaras made a friendly amendment to raise it to 25%. Linda Wheeland seconded. Brian Otwell accepted the amendment. The motion passed.**

OTHER BUSINESS:

- 1.) RE Committee Chair, Liz Reither, gave a quick report on the curriculum goals for FY2005 balancing between UU Principles and World Religions.
- 2.) Victoria Vincent reminded the Board about the Board Retreat on July 24 from 9 am to 12pm at ALUUC.
- 3.) The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 3rd at 7:00pm at ALUUC.
- 4.) Buffy Lael will provide the opening words for the next Board meeting, and Fran Giavaras will provide the snacks.

ADJOURNMENT: Shelley Reither made the motion to adjourn and Jeff Johnston seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.

Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Board Meeting Minutes

August 3, 2004

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm.

Present: Victoria Vincent, Brian Otwell, Linda Wheeland, Scott Wade, Carol Floyd, Buffy Lael, Fran Giavaras, Shelley Reither, and Rev. Martin Woulfe

Absent: Jeff Johnston & Nancy Standen

Guests:

Opening Words: Buffy Lael read “The Path of Beauty” from *The Book of Ceremonies: A Native Way of Honoring & Living the Sacred* by Gabriel Horn.

Snacks: Fran Giavaras supplied the snacks.

Minutes: Scott Wade presented the final draft of the minutes from the June 29th Board meeting for the month of July. Correction was made to the Minister’s Report. **Fran Giavaras moved for their acceptance with the correction and Linda Wheeland seconded. The Minutes were approved.**

Minister’s Report:

- Continuing to attend GSIA board & regular meetings, Habitat, Rotary & PADS-related.
- Polyp surgery is scheduled for August 16.
- Scheduled wedding services: 1 in August; 2 in September; 2 in November.
- Memorial service conducted on July 17 for ALUUC Member, John Erickson. Non-member memorial service scheduled for August 7 & 9.
- “New Member Board” is up in the hallway.
- Passed out a preaching schedule for September 04 to February 05
- Office Administrator, Cindy Stults, intends to keep working indefinitely.

Treasurer’s Report:

- Met with the accountant for training and finalized entries from last church year.
- Famous UU posters and Bonnie’s CDs are considered as ongoing fundraising, and we need a line item in the church’s finances just for those two things. Linda Wheeland suggested we create an Equity Fund and designate all sales from the posters and cd’s to be placed in the fund. **Scott Wade moved for the creation of an Equity Fund designated for the UU poster & Bonnie’s CD sales, and Buffy seconded. The motion passed.**
- \$1144.03 was the final net profit from the 2004 Midsummer’s Faire.
- The Benevolence Checking account at Carrollton Bank will be moved to Security Bank where there is no fee. It will remain a separate checking account. The mutual funds at AG Edwards and E. D. Jones will be consolidated except for the Endowment Fund.
- As of right now, \$2780 dollars has been donated to the Memorial Fund in John Erickson’s name.

Carol Floyd moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report, and Shelley Reither seconded. The motion passed.

REPORTS:

1. **Rental Policy:** Created a Subcommittee of the Board to review current policy and draft up a new one to bring back to the board. Board members on this committee are: Brian Otwell, Buffy Lael, Shelley Reither and Scott Wade. Rev. Martin Woulfe will also sit on this committee as an ex-officio.
2. **Facilities – Plan for cleaning church:** Kurt & Rita would like more time to create a process. Committees & groups have volunteered to be put on a schedule to clean each month.
3. **Memorial Fund Use:** Table to next month. Scott Wade will check the past minutes on how this fund was created.
4. **Wedding Officiants:** The recommended proposal was tabled to next month.
5. **Background checks:** RE Committee is reviewing a sample from Live Oak UU Church in Texas and gathering information. More reports will follow.
6. **Committee Night Report:** Will be sent out to all board members electronically from Brian Otwell

DECISION:

1. **ALUUC Proposed Social Action Decision Making Policy:** Shelley Reither (Social Action Committee Board Liaison) passed out the previous proposed policy with the recommended changes from the Social Action Committee. A total of 4 changes were made during discussion. **Scott Wade moved to approve the policy with the 4 new changes, and Linda Wheeland seconded. The motion passed.**
2. **Habitat for Humanity Covenant:** The board members were given a copy of the Partnership Covenant with the House of Abraham and Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County. It was proposed that the Board Officers sign on behalf of the entire Board and the Congregation. **Shelley Reither moved to approve this partnership covenant, and Buffy Lael seconded. The motion passed.**
3. **Ad Hoc Committees:** Two new ad hoc committees need to be approved by the Board.
 - By-Laws
 - Long-Range Planning**Shelley Reither moved to approve the formation of the above mentioned ad hoc committees, and Linda Wheeland seconded. The motion passed.**
4. **Furnace Issue:** Victoria Vincent informed the Board the air conditioner wasn't working properly. The problem was that the furnace filters have not been changed for over a year. One of the six filters was severely damaged, but luckily there was no damage to the furnace. Victoria Vincent talked with Bob (furnace guy) about contract estimates and other solutions. Victoria Vincent stated that these filters need to be cleaned every month. These filters can be washed out with water, but they need to completely dry before placing back into the furnace. The filters are roughly \$50 for each filter. Victoria Vincent suggested that we purchase an extra set of filters and replace the one that was damaged. Linda Wheeland informed the Board that we have an extra \$1800 in pledges after discounting, and that we could use some of this money to purchase the filters. Victoria Vincent suggested of instead of making a motion to purchase 7 filters, that the Board move that we set a dollar amount just in case another filter or two needs

to be replaced. **Brian Otwell moved to authorize between \$300 to \$500 dollars for the purchase of these filters, and Fran Giavaras seconded. The motion passed.**

5. Computer Issue: Rev. Martin Woulfe's personal home computer is quickly dying. He plans on purchasing a new computer for his office at the church from his professional expenses. The computer equipment in the Minister's office right now was donated. Rev. Woulfe would like to purchase the computer equipment in his office to be used at home. Victoria Vincent informed that Board that she received a quote from Rob Ewart of roughly \$300. There was discussion of finding two other computer intellectuals that we could get quotes from. Jon Wolf and Michael Naber were mentioned. **Fran Giavaras moved to approve the sell of the computer equipment in the Minister's office to Rev. Martin Woulfe at the price from a consensus by Jon Wolf, Rob Ewart & Michael Naber, and Scott Wade seconded. The motion passed.**

OTHER BUSINESS:

- 1.) **Church Mortgage with UUA:** Victoria Vincent requested the Board to read up on the material received from the Board Retreat for next month's meeting.
- 2.) The next Board meeting will be Tuesday, September 7th at 7:00pm at ALUUC.
- 3.) Scott Wade will provide the opening reading for next months Board meeting, and Linda Wheeland will provide the snacks.

ADJOURNMENT: Shelley Reither made the motion to adjourn, and Buffy Lael seconded. The meeting adjourned at 10:07 pm.

Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Board Meeting Minutes

September 7, 2004

Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm.

Present: Victoria Vincent (President), Brian Otwell (Vice President), Linda Wheeland (Treasurer), Scott Wade (Secretary), Carol Floyd, Buffy Lael, Jeff Johnston, Nancy Standen, Shelley Reither, and Rev. Martin Woulfe

Absent: Fran Giavaras

Guests:

Opening Words: Scott Wade read a quote from Chief Red Jacket in a book titled *The Wisdom of the Native Americans* – “We do not wish to destroy your religion, or to take it from you. We only want to enjoy our own.”

Snacks: Linda Wheeland provided the snacks.

Minutes: Scott Wade presented the final draft of the minutes from the August 3rd Board meeting. **Jeff Johnston moved for their acceptance and Carol Floyd seconded. The Minutes were approved.**

Minister's Report:

- Resumed preaching on September 5th.
- Attended GSIA board & regular meetings.
- Attended the Habitat for Humanity Interfaith steering committee and the House of Abraham ground-breaking ceremony.
- Attended two CRE search committee meetings; 4 candidates will be interviewed on Wed. September 8th.
- Attended the Senior Youth Group meeting to talk about the upcoming Con, scheduled for Oct. 15-17.
- The “New to UU” class starts Wed. September 9.
- Preparing the Adult RE class that will begin in October, which most likely will be on the 20th.

Treasurer's Report:

- Linda Wheeland passed out the Financial Statements for June and July.
- The expenses are lower and the revenue is higher compared to last year at this time, and the pledges are higher than last year.

REPORTS:

1. **CRE Search:** A total of 9 applicants with 4 of them being very strong candidates. Interviews begin Wed. September 8th.
2. **Habitat Build:** The kickoff is tomorrow (Wed. September 8th) at Temple Israel. Jack Kriel is in charge of the build. It should take about one month to complete.
3. **Memorial Fund Use:** Scott Wade presented the minutes from the April 27th Board meeting to clarify how this fund was established by last year's Board. From those minutes it reads as follows: **Jeff Johnston moved that a Memorial Fund be established and monies received into this fund be designated for only Board approval for its use. Victoria Vincent seconded. The motion passed.**
4. **PADS (Public Action to Deliver Shelter):** PADS is no longer the acronym for the projected Springfield version of providing temporary shelter during the winter for the homeless.: Instead, they are calling it SOS (Supplemental Overnight Shelter). Various existing shelters will expand, they are looking for volunteers from various congregations to help with the overnights. Martin will check with the Social Action Committee to determine our level of interest.
5. **Youth Con:** Buffy Lael informed that Board that the Midwest District Fall Youth Con will be held here at ALUUC and sponsored by our Senior Youth, along with the help from the Senior Youth group in Bloomington. The dates for the Con are October 15-17. The theme will be "Lin-Con". There will be approximately 200 kids at the Con. Numerous workshops are being planned. Tom Vaught volunteered to do all the food. A special keynote speaker is in the works.
6. **Springopoly:** This fundraiser has been cancelled due to lack of participation by local businesses. Most of the businesses felt uncomfortable since a church was organizing this project.
7. **Building Rental Policy Subcommittee:** This committee did not have time to meet to go over the drafted rental policy. Victoria Vincent strongly encouraged the subcommittee to have this accomplished by October's Board meeting. The subcommittee agreed that they would.

DECISION:

1. **Minister's Compensation Package:** Linda Wheeland passed out Rev. Woulfe's Compensation package for FY 2005. The only two items that needs the Board approval is the Professional Expenses & Housing Allowance. **Jeff Johnston moved to approval the Professional Expenses & Housing Allowance and Carol Floyd seconded. The motion passed.**
2. **Interfaith Thanksgiving Service:** The Springfield Interfaith Clergy group would like to conduct an evening pre-Thanksgiving service here at ALUUC on Monday, November 22. **Shelley Reither moved to approve and Jeff Johnston seconded. The motion passed.**

DISCUSSION:

- 1.) **CRE Hours:** The Board discussed the issue of the CRE hours. The budget was passed with a total salary of a DRE/CRE at \$4160 for the church year. Since the CRE will be starting later in the year, is the position still allocated the whole amount that was budgeted? Most of the board members agreed that the full dollar amount should be available as long as neither the hourly rate nor the total hours be exceeded (on which the approved budget calculations were based).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1.) Trash N Treasure sale & set-up begins this coming Sunday, September 12th. Victoria Vincent encouraged the Board to help out next week or during the sale on Friday or Saturday.
- 2.) Scott Wade informed the Board that Prairie Wind CUUPS is in the process of creating By-Laws. Copies will be given to Board Members (if so desired) after they are approved at the CUUPS Annual Meeting in November.
- 3.) Brian Otwell informed the Board that the Committee Fair will be rescheduled due to other conflicts on the church calendar. The next possible date would be October 10th. Brian Otwell also handed out the Committee Reports from July and August.
- 4.) Political Campaigning: Brian Otwell informed the Board that the church needs to be very careful in this arena. Non-for-profit organizations may not participate in or convene in campaigning for any candidate for public office.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Brian Otwell informed the Board that the monitor that Rev. Woulfe purchased from the church did not properly work. The total price of the computer system was dropped down to \$250 from \$300.
2. The next Board meeting will be Tuesday, October 5th at 7:00pm at ALUUC.
3. Nancy Standen will provide the opening reading and the snacks for next months Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Jeff Johnston made the motion to adjourn, and Buffy Lael seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.

Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Board Meeting Minutes

October 5, 2004

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm.

Present: Victoria Vincent (President), Brian Otwell (Vice President), Linda Wheeland (Treasurer), Scott Wade (Secretary), Carol Floyd, Buffy Lael, Jeff Johnston, Nancy Standen, Shelley Reither, Fran Giavaras and Rev. Martin Woulfe

Absent:

Guests: Ceceilia Haasis

Opening Words: Nancy Standen read the foreword by the Dalai Lama from a book titled Peace Is Every Step written by Thich Nhat Hanh.

Snacks: Nancy Standen provided the snacks.

Minutes: Scott Wade presented the final draft of the minutes from the September 7th Board meeting. **Jeff Johnston moved for their acceptance and Brian Otwell seconded. The Minutes were approved.**

Minister's Report:

- Collecting information regarding rentals from various congregations.
- Attended GSIA board & regular meetings and was nominated to be President-Elect for 2005 and President for 2006.
- Attended the last Habitat for Humanity Interfaith steering committee and have helped out at the House of Abraham. Dedication of the house is on October 24 at 1:00pm.
- The GSIA annual banquet is scheduled for October 12 at St. John's Hospital at 11:45am. Beverly Charles has been nominated for Humanitarian of the Year award.
- Conducted "New to UU class" at the ALUUC on September 8 & 15.
- Will be attending the UUMA chapter retreat in Racine from October 12 to 14.

Treasurer's Report:

- Linda Wheeland passed out the financial statements.
- Linda Wheeland informed the Board that she sent out the quarterly Pledge statements.

Jeff Johnston moved to approve the Treasurer's report, and Shelley Reither seconded. The motion passed.

REPORTS:

1. **CRE Search:** Marla Johnson is the new Coordinator of Religious Education. Anna Williams is in the process of completing the background check, and Brian Otwell will be leading the process of drafting up the CRE contract along with help from Anna Williams, Frank Kopecky, and Liz Reither.
2. **Habitat Build:** Rev. Woulfe informed the Board if you want to participate, just show up at the build site or call Jodi Perko. Some of the ALUUC youth will be going this Saturday to help paint and help with the landscape.
3. **Youth Con:** Buffy Lael informed the Board that our youth are very excited about the Con. So far, we have 75 youth and 16 adults registered. Buffy Lael showed the Board the design for the t-shirt which was done by Rachel Otwell and Carla Jouse. Buffy also mentioned that Tom Vaught was helping with the food, and Scott Wade was helping with the registration and will be operating the sound system during the Con. Buffy stated that we had more than enough volunteers for home hospitality, but we do need vacuums and ice chest coolers

DECISION:

1. **Women Spirit Conference:** Ceceilia Haasis was present to request from the Board for an official sponsorship from the ALUUC for the Women Spirit Conference in January 2005 hosted by a group called Women in Religion. Ceceilia informed the Board that no money is needed and that the group would just like to use our name on flyers and brochures as a sponsor for this event. **Shelley moved to approve sponsorship of the Women Spirit Conference, and Buffy Lael seconded. The motion passed.**
2. **ACLU Panel Discussion on Gay Marriage:** Rev. Martin Woulfe informed the Board of an upcoming panel discussion supporting gay marriage. It will be held at UIS on November 9, 2004. Rev. Woulfe is requesting that ALUUC be a co-sponsor of this program. No money or building space is needed. Rev. Woulfe mentioned that he has been asked to participate on the panel. The panel will consist of a minister, lawyer, ACLU member and a couple others. **Buffy Lael moved that ALUUC agree to be a co-sponsor for this panel discussion supporting gay marriage, and Linda Wheeland seconded. The motion passed.**

DISCUSSION:

- 1.) **Paved Parking Lot:** Linda Wheeland informed the Board that Kurt DeWeese started the process a couple months ago of possible paving the parking lot. Kurt DeWeese has come to the Finance Committee with some figures and information. The Finance Committee would like to know if the Board would be interested in the Finance Committee to continue researching methods of paving the parking lot? Board members briefly discussed their personal viewpoints on this issue. The Board decided as a whole that more information is needed in order to make a sound decision on this issue.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Committee Fair & Potluck is scheduled for Sunday, October 10 after service.
2. Interfaith Service will be held on Monday, November 22 at 7pm here at ALUUC.
3. Humanitarian Award Banquet is on Monday, October 12 at St. John's at 11:45am.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. The next Board meeting will be changed from Tuesday, November 2nd to Thursday November 4th at 7:00pm.
2. Buffy Lael would like to mention that classroom supplies are coming up missing from classrooms. Buffy informed the Board that the classrooms will be locked on Sunday morning during the beginning of service, in order to keep the kids out of the classroom. The youth also do not need to be conversing in the kitchen. Buffy asked all Board members to help steer the youth into the service.
3. Church Calendar – Buffy Lael stated that some members and groups of the congregation do not realize that there is a calendar in the church office where all events at the church are to be written down. Buffy was wondering if there was any way to remind the congregation the importance of this calendar. Victoria Vincent stated that she will put something in the November newsletter.
4. Shelley Reither mentioned concerns dealing with the misuse of Joys & Concerns. Shelley stated that it would be nice to make a polite reminder of appropriate issues during Joys & Concerns.
5. Scott Wade mentioned to the Board that the New Directory has been delayed in order to get the new CRE information and picture so it can be listed.
6. SISTERS coming back very soon.
7. Many complaints on dirty dishes and not cleaning up classrooms.
8. For the next Board meeting, Jeff Johnston will have the opening reading and Victoria Vincent will provide the snacks.

ADJOURNMENT: Jeff Johnston made the motion to adjourn, and Fran Giavaras seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:57pm.

Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting

November 4, 2004

Meeting called to order at 7:10pm.

Present: Victoria Vincent (President), Linda Wheeland (Treasurer), Scott Wade (Secretary), Jeff Johnston, Nancy Standen, Shelley Reither, Fran Giavaras and Rev. Martin Woulfe

Absent: Brian Otwell (Vice President), Buffy Lael, & Carol Floyd

Guests: Kurt DeWeese

Opening Words: Jeff Johnston read from a desk calendar dated May 8th, titled If life is a Game, these are the rules.

Snacks: Victoria Vincent provided the snacks.

Minutes: Scott Wade presented the final draft of the minutes from the October 5th Board meeting. **Shelley Reither moved for their acceptance and Fran Giavaras seconded. The Minutes were approved.**

Minister's Report:

- Attended the UUMA chapter retreat in Racine from Oct 12-14.
- Received confirmation from MFC that 2nd renewal of Preliminary Fellowship has been approved.
- Will be attending the UU Minister's study group in Alton with Berkley Moore.
- Will begin preparing for the Interfaith Thanksgiving Service here.
- The ACLU sponsored panel discussion at UIS on the issue of gay marriage has been postponed until January 2005.
- Attended the pre-election Candlelight Vigil on Nov. 1st in front of the State House.
(The Minister's full report has been filed.)

Treasurer's Report:

- Linda Wheeland passed out the financial statements.
- Pledges & PLF at 30% of budget, and expenses at 27%.
- Cindy Stults, the Office Administrator, will be assisting with Treasurer duties.

Jeff Johnston moved to approve the Treasurer's report, and Shelley Reither seconded. The motion passed.

REPORTS:

1. **Financing Proposal:** Kurt DeWeese will be proposing to the Finance Committee a way to improve our cash flow situation, and possibly take care of some capital improvement. Kurt has been speaking with a rep from Marine Bank whom is willing to take both of our building mortgages and is suggesting two options. The first option would be to just take over our mortgages from Bank One and the UUA. The second option is adding \$35,000 dollars to the mortgages for capital improvements like paving the parking lot. Both options would lower our monthly payments but would extend the length of the loan to include a balloon payment every five years. Kurt will be taking this to the next Finance Committee meeting.
2. **Calendar Scheduling:** This is still not getting done. Members and groups are not writing down their events ahead of time on the office calendar and conflicts have occurred. Victoria Vincent will be submitting an article for next month's newsletter.
3. **Web site & Directories:** Scott Wade informed the Board that the new website is up and running, along with the aluuc.org email. The directories are also in. Every member & friend household that is in the directory will receive one free copy. Additional copies are \$3.00 each. Please see Scott Wade if you have not received your copy, or if you would like to purchase another one.
4. **FY 2004 Annual Report:** This is postponed until the next Board meeting due to the absence of the Vice President, Brian Otwell.

DECISION:

1. **Transylvania Sister Church Program:** Rev. Martin Woulfe informed the Board that our sister church that we sponsor in Romania is due for renewal. The fee is \$100 per year. The Board was informed that we have been involved in this program with this specific church for many years. Overall, the Board members agreed that they would like to see more of an active role from us instead of just writing a check and that's it. **Jeff Johnston moved to continue the participation in this program and Nancy Standen seconded. The motion passed.**

DISCUSSION:

1.) **Rental Policy:** Rev. Martin Woulfe handed out the rental policy proposal from what the sub-committee of the Board agreed on. It was proposed that the Office Administrator monitor this program. The pricing was broken down to Members/Friends and Non-Members. There was some discussion on the Members pricing of the security deposit of \$250 with the possibility of a waiver in circumstances granted by the Minister. It was proposed that the security deposit be lowered to \$100 with no waiver option. Overnight usage was also a topic. Many of the Board members felt that overnight usage should only be available to members/friends, and that the member/friend should be someone of good & well known standing. Rev. Martin Woulfe advised that he would make the necessary changes that the Board advised and bring the policy back at next month's meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1.) Policies will be sent from Victoria Vincent to put in Board binder.
- 2.) Interfaith Service will be held on Monday, November 22 at 7:30pm here at ALUUC.
- 3.) ALUUC Workday is set for Saturday, Nov. 13th.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. The next Board meeting will be Tuesday, Dec. 7th at 7:00pm here at ALUUC
2. For the next Board meeting, Scott Wade will have the opening reading and Rev. Martin Woulfe will provide the snacks.

ADJOURNMENT: Jeff Johnston made the motion to adjourn, and Fran Giavaras seconded. The meeting adjourned at 9:05pm.

Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting

December 4, 2004

Meeting called to order at 7:03pm.

Present: Victoria Vincent (President), Brian Otwell (Vice President), Linda Wheeland (Treasurer), Scott Wade (Secretary), Jeff Johnston, Carol Floyd, Fran Giavaras and Rev. Martin Woulfe

Absent: Buffy Lael, Shelley Reither and Nancy Standen

Guests:

Opening Words: Scott Wade read a poem titled *Lingering in Happiness* by Mary Oliver in her book "Why I Wake Early".

Snacks: Rev. Martin Woulfe provided the snacks.

Minutes: Scott Wade presented the final draft of the minutes from the November 4th Board meeting. **Brian Otwell moved for their acceptance and Jeff Johnston seconded. The minutes were approved.**

Minister's Report:

- Finished the sessions of "The Other Scriptures", which about 10 to 12 people attended the course.
- Will be having a two part "Introduction to UU" class on Dec. 8 & 15, and so far 5 people have signed up.
- Initiated a "Sacred Art Wall", and the pictures will be changed periodically.
- ALUUC hosted the Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. 92 people attended and \$470 was donated to the American Red Cross, and the food was donated to the Food Bank.
- The ACLU sponsored panel discussion at UIS on the issue of gay marriage is scheduled to be held on January 19, 2005.
- Labyrinth walks will be scheduled once a month beginning on Friday, Dec. 17th.
- Angela, Celeste & I are scheduled to go on vacation in Spain from Dec. 26 to Jan 8.

Treasurer's Report:

- Linda Wheeland passed out the financial statements.
- Revenue is at 44% of budget, and expenses are 36%.

Jeff Johnston moved to approve the Treasurer's report, and Fran Giavaras seconded. The motion passed.

CRE Report:

- Attended meetings, and began preparations for the Intergenerational Service for December.
- Completed organization of RE file cabinet & the RE bulletin board, and began sorting through the RE curriculum.
- Have substituted for teachers in their absence.
- Will be gone on vacation in Mexico from Dec. 8 to 12.

DECISIONS:

- 1.) **Additional nursery person for Sunday mornings:** Victoria Vincent informed the Board that during the past month or so, the average number of children in the nursery has increased to 8. Some Sundays there have been 10 or 11 children in the nursery. Many feel that is too many kids for one person to handle. Victoria stated that we have roughly \$1858 in cash that remains unbudgeted. The Treasurer, Linda Wheeland, agreed to that amount. To add another person for two hours every Sunday for the rest of the fiscal year would roughly cost \$550. Victoria recommended that the additional person be Rachel Otwell. Brian Otwell, Rachel's father, confirmed that she would be willing. **Jeff Johnston moved to approve the additional person, with the stipulation that if that person is not needed in the nursery, then that person will assist the CRE, Marla Johnson. Linda Wheeland seconded. The motion passed.**

- 2.) **Additional hours for the Office Administrator, Cindy Stults:** Linda Wheeland and Cindy Stults sat down and went over all her duties to include some of the treasurer duties. They are asking for 4 more additional hours to be added to her 8 hours per week. The additional 4 hours for the rest of the fiscal year would roughly cost \$1300. There was discussion on some of her duties that did not seem that important or at least very low on the priority list. There was also discussion about the additional nursery person that was just approved, and the next item on the agenda to cover is the copy machine problem. There was discussion about increasing her hours up 2 instead of the 4 hours. To increase her hours up 2 for the rest of the fiscal year would roughly cost \$650. **Jeff Johnston moved to increase the Office Administrator's hours up 2 from 8 hours per week to 10 hours per week, with the understanding that Linda Wheeland will help with the allocation of duties. Fran Giavaras seconded. The motion passed.**

- 3.) **Copier:** Victoria Vincent informed the Board that the copy machine in the office is dying. We do not know how much life in may have in it. Rev. Martin Woulfe stated that he still has the information that he retrieved from last year when this same issue came up. There was discussion on whether to purchase or lease a new copier. Linda Wheeland and Victoria Vincent agreed to research these two options and bring it back to the Board.

REPORTS:

Safe Congregation Policy: This policy is not completed yet. Tabled to next month.

Policy on Sunday Announcements: Board decided to leave this issues in the hands of the Program Committee

Siding & Trees: Fran Giavaras emailed the Facilities Co-chairs, Kurt DeWeese & Rita Stepp concerning the siding and the trees. She is still waiting for a response. The siding will need to be done next Spring.

ALUUC Bylaws update: In the absence of Nancy Standen, Victoria Vincent informed the Board that Berkley Moore is heading this committee. The last meeting they discussed a minimum membership fee, the Endowment Committee responsibilities, and the procedures of the Nominating Committee.

Long Range Planning: Debby Hagan and Carol Kneedler are heading up this committee. They will be meeting with all committee chairs at various dates.

Committee Reports were handed out.

Rental Policy: Rev. Martin Woulfe handed out the updated final draft of the Rental Policy.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- 1.) **Brian Otwell moved to use monies from the Memorial Fund to purchase the Abe Lincoln painting done by John Erickson along with a plaque to be placed in the church for a memorial to beloved friend and fellow congregation member, John Erickson, pending the acceptance from John's wife, Delinda Chapman. Fran Giavaras seconded. The motion passed.**
- 2.) The next Board meeting will be Tuesday, Jan. 4th at 7:00pm at ALUUC.
- 3.) For the next Board meeting, Fran Giavaras will have the opening reading and Brian Otwell will provide the snacks.

ADJOURNMENT: Jeff Johnston made the motion to adjourn, and Brian Otwell seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting

January 4, 2005

Meeting called to order at 7:12pm.

Present: Victoria Vincent (President), Brian Otwell (Vice President), Linda Wheeland (Treasurer), Scott Wade (Secretary), Jeff Johnston, Carol Floyd, Nancy Standen, Shelley Reither, Buffy Lael, and Fran Giavaras

Absent: Rev. Martin Woulfe

Guests:

Opening Words: Fran Giavaras read from *Words of Wisdom* by Thich Nhat Hanh.

Snacks: Brian Otwell provided the snacks.

Minutes: Scott Wade presented the final draft of the minutes from the December 4th Board meeting. **Nancy Standen moved for their acceptance and Jeff Johnston seconded. The minutes were approved.**

Minister's Report:

- Rev. Martin Woulfe's report was submitted electronically, and has been included with the minutes.

Treasurer's Report:

- Linda Wheeland passed out the financial statements for the end of November 2004.
- Revenue is at 53% of budget, and expenses are at 47%.
- \$1,000 anonymous donation was given towards the Janitorial Services. This will provide 2 cleanings a month for the rest of the church year.

Buffy Lael moved to approve the Treasurer's report, and Jeff Johnston seconded. The motion passed.

CRE Report:

- No Report submitted.

DECISIONS:

Copier: Victoria Vincent informed the Board that the copy machine has been fixed. The entire Board felt that we shouldn't do anything until we absolutely need to replace the copier. It was also suggested that we try to fit the purchase of a new copier in next year's budget.

Dishwasher: The total cost for a dishwasher to included installation will be \$700. Linda Wheeland informed the Board that the Dishwasher fund would be able to cover that. **Fran Giavaras moved to approve this purchase, and Linda Wheeland seconded. The motion passed.**

Victoria Vincent informed the Board that there was some personnel issues that she wanted to discuss, and would prefer to discuss them in Executive Session. Victoria Vincent reminded the Board that while in Executive Session, no minutes can be taken along with no voting. **Carol Floyd moved to enter into Executive Session, and Jeff Johnston seconded. The motion passed, and the Board entered Executive Session at 7:31pm.**

The Board ended Executive Session at 8:20pm.

REPORTS:

ALUUC Bylaws update: Nancy Standen presented the notes from the last Bylaws committee. These notes have been included with the minutes.

FY04 Annual Report: Brian Otwell informed the Board that the annual report will be completed in the next couple of weeks.

Committee Reports: There was a very low attendance at the Committee Night in December.

Fantasy Auction Update: Scott Wade informed the Board that everything was running smoothly. This year's Fantasy Auction will be on the Saturday, February 26. The theme this year is the 50's with the title "Rock Around The Clock".

Tsunami Relief Donation: Victoria Vincent informed the Board that we will be doing a special collection during the service on Sunday, January 9th for the victims of the recent tsunami.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. The next Board meeting will be Tuesday, February 1 at 7:00pm at ALUUC.
2. For the next Board meeting, Carol Floyd will have the opening reading and Jeff Johnston will provide the snacks.

ADJOURNMENT: Nancy Standen made the motion to adjourn, and Jeff Johnston seconded. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:44pm.

Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting

February 1, 2005

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm.

Present: Victoria Vincent (President), Scott Wade (Secretary), Jeff Johnston, Carol Floyd, Nancy Standen, Shelley Reither, and Rev. Martin Woulfe.

Absent: Brian Otwell (Vice President), Linda Wheeland (Treasurer), Fran Giavaras, and Buffy Lael

Guests:

Opening Words: Carol Floyd read numerous quotes from a book titled "*Book of Positive Quotations*".

Snacks: Jeff Johnston provided the snacks.

Minutes: Scott Wade presented the final draft of the minutes from the January 4th Board meeting. **Shelley Reither moved for their acceptance and Jeff Johnston seconded. The minutes were approved.**

Minister's Report:

- Continued pastoral care visits/calls with several members, to include those who have recently lost relatives.
- Conducted the funeral and burial services for Beverly Charles on Jan. 31. Her Memorial service will be held here on Sat. Feb. 5.
- Participated in the ACLU sponsored panel discussion at UIS on Jan. 19 on the issue of gay marriage.
- Participated in the Interfaith Tsunami Prayer Service held at the State Capital on Jan. 26.
- Proposed and attended the Candlelight Eve Election Vigil here at ALUUC on Jan. 29.
- Have been invited to make a presentation to three classes of sophomores and juniors at Lutheran HS about UUism on Feb. 14.

The remainder of the Minister's report has been filed.

Treasurer's Report:

- In the absent of the Treasurer, Victoria Vincent passed out the Treasurer's Report, which have been filed.

Shelley Reither moved to approve the Treasurer's report and Jeff Johnston seconded. The motion passed.

CRE Report:

- Continued sorting and purging of RE Curriculum, and organizing the RE Library.
- Attended the committee meeting and the First Friday event for the Kid's Club.

REPORTS:

Not for Profit rentals: Board discussed about rental fees for not-for-profit organizations. The current Building Rental Policy only covers members and non-members. A majority of the Board felt that we needed to include a Not-for-Profit category to the policy. Rev. Martin Woulfe will be drafting up that section to bring to the Board.

Labyrinth: Rev. Martin Woulfe and President Victoria Vincent informed and clarified the ownership of the Labyrinth. Rev. Woulfe purchased the Labyrinth on his own. The additional merchandise (books, cd's) was donated to the church. These items will be on sale during the Labyrinth Walks. The revenues from these items will go back to the church. There is also a donation basket for those who feel like contributing before or after they walk. These donations will go back to Rev. Woulfe to help cover the cost of the Labyrinth. Victoria Vincent suggested to Rev. Woulfe to maintain a record-keeping for all of the donated merchandise.

Safe Congregation Policy: The previous 2000 version of this policy was not properly applied and was revised by members of RE and Committee on Ministry (CoM). Background checks on all RE teachers, was the main area added to the policy. Both the RE Committee and CoM have approved this new revision. RE Committee member, Brenda Wade, drafted up the policy and made all the changes that both the RE committee and CoM suggested. **Nancy Standen moved to thank Brenda Wade for all her time and hard-work, and Jeff Johnston seconded. The motion passed.** The Board discussed the issue concerning the cost of the background checks, and where would these confidential documents be stored. Some board members felt that this new policy is too complex and feel that the Congregation should vote on it at the annual meeting. The Board was not willing to pass the policy. Victoria Vincent will be taking the policy back to the RE committee and CoM.

Pledge Drive: Still looking for a chair for the Stewardship Campaign. Scott Wade is willing to do all the paperwork and flyers, and Linda Wheeland will do all the financials.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Beverly Charles' Memorial Service will be held here at 11:00am on Saturday, February 5th.
2. The new dishwasher has been installed.
3. Next Board meeting will be on March 1 at 7:00pm here at ALUUC.
4. The opening for the next Board meeting will be from Scott Wade, and Nancy Standen will bring the snacks.

ADJOURNMENT: Jeff Johnston made the motion to adjourn, and Shelley Reither seconded. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 9:50pm.

Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting

March 1, 2005

Meeting called to order at 7:02pm.

Present: Victoria Vincent (President), Brian Otwell (Vice President), Linda Wheeland (Treasurer), Scott Wade (Secretary), Jeff Johnston, Carol Floyd, Nancy Standen, Fran Giavaras, Buffy Lael, Shelley Reither, and Rev. Martin Woulfe.

Absent:

Guests: Berkley Moore

Opening Words: Scott Wade read a song of a Lakota Warrior to his war horse from the book titled "*the lakota way: stories and lessons for living*" by Joseph M. Marshall III.

Snacks: Nancy Standen provided the snacks.

Minutes: Scott Wade presented the final draft of the minutes from the February 1st Board meeting. **Jeff Johnston moved for their acceptance and Brian Otwell seconded. The minutes were approved.**

Minister's Report:

- Led the two-part "Introduction to UU" class on February 16 and 23. Seven people attended the first session, and only one attended the second part.
- Compiled a graph record of new members for the past 20 years.
- Gave presentations to three classes of sophomores and juniors at Lutheran HS on February 14 about UUism.
- Have been invited to make a presentation to a comparative religion class at Blackburn College on March 21.
- Am continuing to organize a *Coming of Age Program*.

The remainder of the Minister's report has been filed.

Treasurer's Report:

- Handout out Financial Statements for January, along with a preliminary proposed budget.
- 67% pledges received.

Buffy Lael moved to approve the Treasurer's report and Jeff Johnston seconded. The motion passed.

DECISIONS:

- 1.) **Proposed Change to the Policy on the Newsletter Mailing List regarding Guests:** Scott Wade handed out the proposal to change part of the last sentence of the current policy, which was passed at the January 2004 Board meeting. The last sentence states: "Once a Guest's last visit date reaches 6 months, the Membership Coordinator will send out a letter informing the Guest that they may continue their ALUUC Newsletter subscription at a cost of \$20 per year." The proposal was to replace "-will send out a letter informing..." with "-will purge them from the newsletter mailing list". Scott Wade stated to the Board the reasons for this proposal was

because not one single person has mailed back the subscription form with the \$20, and sending this information out costs us money in paper, envelope and stamps. He informed the Board that the guest can easily get back on the newsletter list by signing the guest book on a Sunday morning. **Carol Floyd moved to approve the proposed change and Linda Wheeland seconded. The motion passed.**

- 2.) **CRE Contract:** Brian Otwell passed out the rough draft of the CRE contract. There were some minor proposed changes that Brian Otwell agreed with. **Shelley Reither moved to approve this contract with the agreed upon changes, and pending review from the RE Committee and Fran Giavaras seconded. The motion passed.**
- 3.) **J. Erickson Lincoln Picture:** At the December 2004 Board meeting, the Board approved to use money from the Memorial Fund to purchase the Abe Lincoln painting by John Erickson along with a plaque to be placed in the congregation as a memorial to John Erickson, pending the acceptance from Delinda Chapman, John's wife. The cost of the painting is \$500. Delinda would like to donate the Lincoln painting to the congregation, and is requesting that the congregation donate the \$500 to the John Erickson Scholarship Fund. **Shelley Reither moved to approve and Fran Giavaras seconded. The motion passed.**

REPORTS:

Bylaws Revisions: Berkley Moore handed out a two-page summary of the proposed changes to the congregation's current Bylaws. Berkley answered questions from some of the Board Members. Victoria Vincent suggested that we post the official bylaw proposals on the congregation's web site. There were no objections and Scott Wade informed the Board that he would get them posted as soon as possible.

Preliminary Budget Issues: Linda Wheeland went through the preliminary proposed budget handout with the Board, informing them of specific areas that the Board will need to discuss further during the April and May Board meetings.

Pieces of East Concert: Victoria Vincent informed the Board that the agreement with the band members of Pieces of East is the same as last year, which they receive a guarantee of \$150 from the door. Anything over \$150 is split half with them. Victoria informed the Board that this is not a fundraising event, and that we only made a very small amount of money from it last year. The band members stayed at Nancy Standen's house last year, and Debby Hagan donated a large amount of money for the grocery bill to feed the band members. Victoria would like to know if the Board wants to go ahead with this concert and guarantee them the \$150. **Brian Otwell moved to guarantee the \$150, and that any money we profit should go to Nancy Standen for the cost of feeding the band members. Fran Giavaras seconded. The motion passed.**

Committee Reports from February: Brian Otwell handed out the Consolidated Committee Report for Feb 2005.

Safe Congregation Policy: Tabled. Victoria Vincent still needs to meet with the Carley Mattimore (Committee on Ministry Chair) and Liz Reither (RE Committee Chair).

Stewardship Campaign: Jim Redlich has agreed to be the Pledge Drive Chair. Others on this committee are Victoria Vincent, Linda Wheeland, Scott Wade, and Joe & Cecelia Hylak-Reinholtz.

Fantasy Auction: Tabled. Scott Wade informed the Board that the Wrap-up meeting will be on March 16. He will ask the co-chairs to be at the April Board meeting to present their final report.

CRE Report: Marla Johnson assisted Nicole Babcook with the first Friday Kids Club. She prepared an agenda and facilitated the teacher's meeting held February 20. She continued to organize the RE Library. Marla Johnson's full report has been filed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The next Board meeting will be on April 12 at 7:00pm.
2. The Opening Reading for the next Board meeting will be from Brian Otwell, and Shelley Reither will provide the snacks.

ADJOURNMENT: Shelley Reither made the motion to adjourn, and Jeff Johnston seconded. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:33pm.

Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting

April 12, 2005

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm.

Present: Victoria Vincent (President), Brian Otwell (Vice President), Linda Wheeland (Treasurer), Scott Wade (Secretary), Jeff Johnston, Carol Floyd, Buffy Lael, Shelley Reither, and Rev. Martin Woulfe.

Absent: Nancy Standen & Fran Giavaras

Guests: Wes Duiker, Finance Committee Chair & Brenda Wade, 2005 Fantasy Auction Co-Chair

Opening Words: No Reading

Snacks: Shelley Reither provided the snacks.

Minutes: Scott Wade presented the final draft of the minutes from the March 1st Board meeting. **Shelley Reither moved for their acceptance and Jeff Johnston seconded. The minutes were approved.**

Minister's Report:

- Pastoral Care visits/calls with several members in their homes and in the hospital
 - Led the first session of the six week Adult RE course "Building Your Own Theology" on Apr. 6
 - Conducted one "New to UU" class with 4 people
 - Will be attending the CMwD UUMA meeting in Arlington Heights on April 14-16
 - Rev. Axel Gehrmann of Champaign-Urbana has requested a pulpit exchange for May 29, and I'm consulting with the Program Chair, Penny Wollan-Kriel concerning this request
 - GSIA will be holding an interfaith service on Sun. Apr 17 at 2pm as part of the Lincoln Library/Museum dedication weekend, and I will present the homily
 - Gave a presentation to a comparative religion class at Blackburn College on Mar. 21, and they are sending a \$100 donation to the ALUUC for Shawn Charles Scholarship Fund
 - Composed a letter to Bishop George Lucas regarding the passing of the Pope
 - The *Coming of Age Program* has been postponed until the fall
 - Will be taking leave time for May 18-22 to go to Virginia, and I will be "on-call" during this period
- The remainder of the Minister's report has been filed.

Treasurer's Report:

- Handout out Financial Statements for February, along with a revised preliminary proposed budget.
- Our average monthly expenses are roughly \$14,000.

Jeff Johnston moved to approve the Treasurer's report and Shelley Reither seconded. The motion passed.

DECISIONS:

Accept donation to Endowment Fund: Victoria Vincent informed the Board that Congregation Member, Fred Dietz donated \$10,000 to the Endowment Fund, and that it must either be accepted or denied by the Board. **Shelley Reither moved to accept the donation and Carol Floyd seconded. The motion passed.**

Memorial Fund: Finance Committee Chair, Wes Duiker informed the Board that after consulting with Delinda Chapman, the Finance Committee is recommending all monies donated in memory of John Erickson, except the \$500 already donated to the UIS John Erickson Memorial Scholarship Fund, will be moved to the Endowment Fund. **Linda Wheeland moved to accept this recommendation and Shelley Reither seconded. The motion passed.**

Safe Congregation Policy: Not quite finished. It will be on the agenda next month.

Not-For-Profit Addendum to the Building Rental Policy: Rev. Martin Woulfe handed out the Building Rental Policy with the addendum in bold at the bottom. The addendum states: "When a not-for-profit group wishes to use our facilities for a single function that is sponsored by ALUUC's Social Action Committee, a waiver may be granted by the Minister and the Board President. The group is still responsible for providing a security deposit and for cleaning up after their event." **Brian Otwell moved to accept the addendum to the Building Rental Policy and Jeff Johnston seconded. The motion passed.**

REPORTS:

Long-Range Planning Survey Results: Victoria Vincent reiterated that paving the parking lot was #1 on the results, and that we have three options. Option 1 = do a special fundraiser, Option 2 = finance it and get more in debt, or Option 3 = combination of the two previous options. Wes Duiker informed the Board that the Finance Committee felt an engineer should be consulted regarding specifications for paving the parking lot, particularly in regards to drainage and thickness of pavement, and bids should then be solicited based on the required specifications. The Finance Committee has recommended a special fundraiser. Victoria Vincent stated that she would like a questionnaire at the annual meeting asking every member present on which of the previous 3 options do they prefer. The consensus from the Board is that we need some concrete and accurate estimates on how much it will cost.

2005 Fantasy Auction Final Report: Brenda Wade, Co-Chair of the Fantasy Auction Committee, provided a financial report along with a review and recommendations from all of the committee chairs. The net profit was a little over \$2,000 dollars less than last year. There was discussion about whether or not we have the Fantasy Auction next year. Brenda Wade informed the Board that out of the six committee chairs within the Fantasy Auction Committee, only 1 or 2 are willing to chair again next year. Everyone else has been doing this for over 2 years straight and in desperate need of a break. A question was raised that even if we want to do the Fantasy Auction again next year, who will step up and fill the empty vacancies? The Board thanked Brenda for briefing all of them and for all her work with the Fantasy Auction.

March Committee Reports: These were emailed to all the Board members from Brian Otwell.

Bylaw Meetings: Victoria Vincent informed the Board that Berkley Moore, chair of the Bylaws Committee, will be having a couple of meetings in May for all members to attend to ask any questions.

District Assembly will be in Arlington Heights on April 15-17, 2005, and **General Assembly** will be in Texas on June 23-27, 2005

Annual Meeting will be Sunday, June 12, 2005. The mailing to notify congregation members will be going out during the first week of May.

Pancake Breakfast: Buffy Lael informed the Board that the Senior Youth Group will be having a pancake breakfast on Sunday, April 24 from 8:30 to 10:00am. The cost is \$7.50 for adults and \$4.00 for children. The monies raised will go for the cost of renting a van for the Spring Youth Con in Wisconsin.

DISCUSSION:

1.) **FY2006 Budget:** Linda Wheeland passed out a revised Preliminary Proposed Budget. There was some discussion on two line items (Fundraising - \$10,000 and Fantasy Auction - \$10,000) about whether or not we should combine these and reduce it. The consensus of the Board was to just have one line item titled Fundraising and budget it for \$12,000. Victoria Vincent asked to Board to review the proposed budget and at next month's meeting to be prepared to finalize the budget. By next month, we should have an accurate figure on the total pledge amount.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The next Board meeting will be on May 3 at 7:00pm.
2. The Opening Reading for the next Board meeting will be from Brian Otwell, and Scott Wade will provide the snacks.

ADJOURNMENT: Jeff Johnston made the motion to adjourn, and Buffy Lael seconded. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 9:08pm.

Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting

May 3, 2005

Meeting called to order at 7:13pm.

Present: Victoria Vincent (President), Brian Otwell (Vice President), Linda Wheeland (Treasurer), Scott Wade (Secretary), Jeff Johnston, Carol Floyd, Buffy Lael, Nancy Standen, Fran Giavaras, and Rev. Martin Woulfe.

Absent: Shelley Reither

Guests: Jim Redlich, Stewardship Chair

Opening Words: Brian Otwell read a passage from a book titled “Original Self” by Thomas Moore.

Snacks: Scott Wade provided the snacks.

Minutes: Scott Wade presented the final draft of the minutes from the April 12th Board meeting. **Buffy Lael moved for their acceptance and Jeff Johnston seconded. The minutes were approved.**

Minister’s Report:

- Pastoral Care visits/calls with several members in their homes and in the hospital
- Led 4 of the 6 session adult RE class titled “Building Your Own Theology”. Nine people had originally signed up, but there are currently eleven people attending. Last class is May 11.
- Sent out care packages to 3 college students
- A “New Member Recognition” will be part of the service on Sunday, May 15. 15 people have signed the book since our last recognition on Oct. 24, 2004.
- Compiled 2004-05 attendance stats and 1983-2005 seasonal membership growth stats.
- Attended the CMwD UUMA meeting in Arlington Heights, IL on April 14-16, and was elected an officer of the UUMA.
- Attended the local GSIA board & regular meetings, and participated in the GSIA-organized interfaith service on Sunday, April 17 as part of the Lincoln Library/Museum dedication weekend with presenting the homily. Rev. Berkley Moore, Bonnie Ettinger & Clayton Penrose-Whitmore also participated, along with several ALUUC youth that carried flowers during the ceremony.

The remainder of the Minister’s report has been filed.

Treasurer’s Report:

- Handout out Financial Statements for March 2005.
- Receiving pledges at a satisfactory rate, and our expenses are inline with the current budget.

Jeff Johnston moved to approve the Treasurer’s report and Fran Giavaras seconded. The motion passed.

DECISIONS:

Office Copier: Linda Wheeland informed the Board that we will have some extra money at the end of this church year, and we could use it to purchase a new copier. In doing that, we would be able to remove the copier purchase line item from next years budget. **Fran Giavaras moved to approve the use of the extra monies of this years budget to purchase a new copier for the office and Jeff Johnston seconded. The motion passed.**

REPORTS:

Stewardship Chair: Jim Redlich informed the Board that most of the pledge cards have been received, but there was still a small portion not in yet. He noted that that we were fall from our goal, but he didn't feel the lack of pledging or pledging amount had anything to do with the congregation or how it was running. He believes that with the economy the way it is, not many people can afford to increase their pledge. Our current pledge amount is roughly at \$117,000. Jim and Linda both believe that we will reach at least \$120,000.

FY2004 Annual Report is almost completed. No committee reports from April were turned in.

Bylaws open meetings will be held after service on May 8 & 15.

General Assembly will be in Texas on June 23-27, 2005. Victoria Vincent asked board members if they knew who might be attending. No one knew who might be attending.

Annual Meeting will be Sunday, June 12, 2005. The mailing to notify congregation members will be passed out this coming Sunday, May 8.

DISCUSSION:

- 1.) **FY2006 Budget:** Linda Wheeland passed out a revised preliminary proposed budget. With our revenue being much lower than last year's expenses, the Board discussed each line item on whether to cut, decrease or remain the same. Many line items were cut or decreased in order to balance the budget.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. The next Board meeting will be on June 7, 2005 at 7:00pm
2. The Opening Reading for the next Board meeting will be from Jeff Johnston, and Victoria Vincent will provide the snacks.

ADJOURNMENT: Jeff Johnston made the motion to adjourn, and Brian Otwell seconded. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 9:18pm.

Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting

June 7, 2005

Meeting called to order at 7:03pm.

Present: Victoria Vincent (President), Brian Otwell (Vice President), Linda Wheeland (Treasurer), Scott Wade (Secretary), Jeff Johnston, Carol Floyd, Buffy Lael, Fran Giavaras, and Rev. Martin Woulfe.

Absent: Shelley Reither and Nancy Standen

Guests: Stacey Larson and Tina Layer

Opening Words: Jeff Johnston read this quote from Albert Einstein, *“The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing. One cannot help but be in awe when one contemplates the mysteries of eternity, of life, of the marvelous structure of reality. It is enough if one tries merely to comprehend a little of this mystery every day. Never lose a holy curiosity.”*

Snacks: Victoria Vincent provided the snacks.

Minutes: Scott Wade presented the final draft of the minutes from the May 3rd Board meeting. **Fran Giavaras moved for their acceptance and Jeff Johnston seconded. The minutes were approved.**

Minister’s Report:

- Continued pastoral care visits/calls with several members here at ALUUC and in their home.
- Preached on May 8, 15, and June 5. Completed a pulpit exchange with Rev. Axel Gehrmann from the UU Church in Champaign/Urbana on May 29.
- Led a “New to UU” orientations on May 9 & 10 with two people in attendance and one of them signed the membership book.
- Interviewed for an article by Steve Spearie pertaining to the Catholic church and includes commentary by people who were raised Catholic but have found their religious home elsewhere.
- Angela & Celeste will be in Spain from June 15 to mid August.

The Minister’s full report has been filed.

Treasurer’s Report:

- Handout out Financial Statements for April.
- 84% of pledges in for FY2005.
- We are at 89% of total revenue, and 85% total expenses.
- The minister’s professional expense went over the budgeted \$4500, due to purchase of new computer.

Fran Giavaras moved to approve the Treasurer’s report and Jeff Johnston seconded. The motion passed.

DECISIONS:

Found Utility money: Linda Wheeland informed the board that we pre-pay our propane in August for the entire year. With the mild winter that we had, we have an extra \$1200 of propane that was not used. Linda Wheeland proposed that we subtract \$1200 under utilities from the FY2006 Budget, and place it in Janitorial service which would give us 14 cleanings. **Buffy Lael made a motion to accept Linda Wheeland's proposal and Fran Giavaras seconded. The motion passed.**

REPORTS:

Annual Meeting will be Sunday, June 12, 2005. Board members discussed the process and procedures along with the items on the agenda.

Rev. Martin Woulfe's Final Fellowship Review – Victoria Vincent informed the board not to forget to complete this review. The forms were emailed to all board members by Martin. Victoria Vincent stated that she would like all the reviews by no later than July 15.

Safe Congregation Policy – More changes are being done. The Committee on Ministry is still working on this.

May Committee Reports passed out by Brian Otwell.

Final Pledge Drive – Linda Wheeland stated that we have 120 pledging units and the final pledge amount is \$122,658.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- 1.) **Rental Issue:** Scott Wade informed the Board concerning a rental issue. An outside group inquired through the church office about renting our building for a Stress Reduction Class for a Saturday that would last all day. They were informed that the Sangamon Zen Group has a rental contract with us for their Saturday morning meditations. This outside group went around us and contacted Ed Russell whom is the contact person for the Zen Group. Ed has graciously forfeited his Saturday for this outside group. Scott Wade just wanted to stress to the Board that he felt this was unprofessional of this outside group to do this. He believes that in the future, if any group does something like this again, that we should not rent to them. He also stated that someone needs to contact Ed Russell and inform him that if anyone outside of the ALUUC should contact him that he should refer them to the ALUUC, and to not give up their Saturday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1.) General Assembly is at the end of June.
- 2.) The next Board meeting will be on July 12th at 7:00pm.
- 3.) The Opening Reading for the next Board meeting will be from Carol Floyd, and Brian Otwell will provide the snacks.

ADJOURNMENT: Scott Wade made the motion to adjourn, and Fran Giavaras seconded. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.