

Minutes – December 11, 2014
Live Oak UU Fellowship Board of Trustees
90 Athol Ave., Oakland, CA 94606

Board Members Present: Jay Roller, Renee Harper (by telephone),
Roger Hallsten, Kathryn Duke
Board Member Absent: Bernadette Alexander,
Others Present: Lisa Fry, David Fry

Jay called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. He also did an opening reading.

1. **Minutes.** November minutes were previously approved by email on a 4-0 vote.
2. **Treasurer's report and finance.** There were a few questions about specific items, but nothing significant to discuss.
3. **Second Sunday transition.** Ty Meier and his family will be honored at the Dec. 21 service for his/their leadership in creating and leading the Second Sunday discussion group that has been our Second Sunday activity. Starting in February, Emily Stoper will lead our Second Sunday activities by teaching monthly classes for five months on U.S. UU History. These will be open to interested people from Live Oak and other UU congregations.
4. **Congregational Meeting:** There is a full agenda planned for the Jan. 11, 2015 congregational meeting. This will include (a) Election (for second two year term) of board members Duke and Roller and for Nominating Committee members Judith Heller and Richard Stromer (b) Discussion of bylaw changes regarding filling an unexpired board term; (c) Update on Monthly Worship Leader selection process; (d) "preview" discussion of Stoper's U.S. UU History series; (e) discussion led by newly chartered Social Justice & Service Group; (f) present for possible discussion the 2015 goals articulated at the December 2014 board meeting. In addition, the Stewardship Committee will probably want to say something at this meeting.
5. **Monthly Worship Leader Update.** The selection committee received nine applications, and has now narrowed the field to three candidates. These three people will each preach for us, starting in January and ending the first Sunday in February.
6. **Children's Religious Education.** There is positive energy about having more children and youth at recent services, and we hope this will continue for the rest of December. There was discussion about finding a youth who can work with Michele and Wesley if/when we have a range of ages that suggests we split into two groups: older and younger.
7. **Important Board Decisions; 2015 Goals.**
There was general review discussion about important decisions made by the Live Oak board and congregation since our congregation's incorporation in 2009.

Action: The board suggests the following Fellowship goals for 2015. These may be reviewed and discussed at the January congregational meeting:

- Stabilize and further develop Every Sunday Programming.

- Move ahead with developing a CRE program and presence. This will involve parents of children who are now or were formerly active participants within a UU congregation, as well as other interested members of the Live Oak community.
- Select and move ahead with selected community service and social justice projects, with leadership from the Social Justice & Service Group.

8. Policy on Paying Members. The board reviewed the history and language of the policy approved by the board in November 2013 regarding paying members or friends for Live Oak-related assistance and support. After some discussion and review of this policy, it was agreed that there is no need to revise it. This policy will continue to be posted on our website:

http://uuliveoak.org/pdfs/policies/hiring_members_or_friends_policy.pdf.

9. Resubmission of PCD Growth Committee grant application. Several board members (past and present) suggested that the current board resubmit the April 2012 proposal for an emerging congregation grant from Pacific Central District of the UUA. Based on changed circumstances within Live Oak and PCD, the board is optimistic that the first grant contingency will now be deemed by the appropriate people within PCD to have been fulfilled (regarding a covenant involving the Live Oak board of directors), and that the second contingency will be eliminated or substantially revised (regarding the trigger for payment of UU-related membership fees).

Action: The board voted 4-0 to resubmit our proposal to PCD Growth Committee for a \$5000 grant to us as an emerging congregation.

10. Social Justice & Service Group charter. There's been lots of online discussion on this. After several revisions, a charter has been developed and will be presented at the next congregational meeting.

Action: Unanimous 4-0 vote to approve the most current version (attached) of the Social Justice & Service Group charter that Renee has been shepherding.

Jay did a closing reading and-led the group in song. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

--Respectfully submitted by Kathryn Sáenz Duke, Secretary

Live Oak creates loving community through worship and service to others

Live Oak UU Fellowship Social Justice & Service Group

1. The Live Oak Social Justice & Service Group (SJSG) shall be composed of no less than three Live Oak members or friends. The group chairperson shall be a Live Oak member.
2. The primary role of the Social Justice & Service Group is to proactively provide opportunities to participate in social justice actions and community service projects, with the goal of participation of Live Oak members and friends as a group. Additional roles may include the following:
 - a. Inform and educate members and friends in areas of social concern, through educational programs, newsletters, or other means of communication, in conjunction with other Live Oak committees as indicated.
 - b. Encourage and enable members and friends to take action on social justice issues, through letters to the editor and to elected officials, signing petitions, participation in demonstrations, and other means of public witness.
 - c. Recommend support and/or sponsorship for groups working to foster social justice.
 - d. Develop public statements in the name of the fellowship as approved by the Board of Trustees. The SJSG will not make public statements in its name alone.
3. The Live Oak Board of Trustees must approve any associated proposal by the SJSG for actions related to any political or public policy initiative taken in the name of the Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.
 - a. Proposals for actions taken in the name of the fellowship should be presented by a SJSG committee member at a regularly scheduled board meeting. Approval of proposals, as presented or as revised after further discussion by the board and possible consultation with others in the congregation, will be based on a majority of board members voting in support. The Board may elect to consult more broadly with the fellowship before reaching a decision.
 - b. If there is an unusually time-sensitive and urgent matter needing board attention, the board members may choose to deliberate and make a decision by conference call (preferably), or by written electronic communications among themselves. In such a situation, board approval of a proposed action or ongoing campaign must be based on an affirmative vote by every board member.
4. Board approval is not required for actions taken by SJSG members as individuals, including informing other fellowship members of upcoming social justice or community service events and sharing information relevant to the events.
5. For participation in community service events, no board approval is required for the group to initiate or participate in such events. However, the SJSG will work with the board, other committees and staff as indicated to coordinate scheduling and logistics of planned events.