

Minutes – Monday, April 25, 2011
Live Oak Board of Trustees Meeting
David & Lisa Fry's apartment

Board Members Present: Lisa Fry, Peter Hand, Darlene Pagano, Jody Savage, Vicky Jensen
Guests Present: David Fry, Ruby Reay, Jay Roller, Neil Planchon

Called to order at 7:20 p.m. Lisa read our opening words and we lit the chalice. We welcomed our guests and had a brief check-in.

Approve/Modify Agenda: We added budget review and approval to the agenda and moved the discussion of the affiliation application covenant to the beginning of the evening. Lisa moved, Vicky seconded we approve the agenda as modified. Unanimous.

Consent Agenda, Approval of Minutes: The minutes were sent out late. Lisa moved, Peter seconded that we approve the minutes on-line. Unanimous.

Affiliation Application Covenant: After working through many concerns, Vicky moved and Darlene seconded we send Jeanelyse Doran Adams, Congregational Services Director for the District, a modified version of the statement she requested and was re-written by Peter. The modified agreement (which follows) was approved with 4 in favor, 1 opposed, no abstentions.

In keeping with our commitment to right relations among congregations and in the spirit of our letter of Spring 2010 to the District Executive we the board of trustees of Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Fellowship pledge to continue to honor the expressed desires of First Unitarian Church of Oakland leaders to maintain space for healing between the congregations.

Specifically, Live Oak officers and trustees will:

- a) Refrain from inviting Oakland members to Live Oak services or events at Oakland services and events.*
- b) Refrain from initiating joint events with the Oakland church.*

In the sincere hope that this agreement will foster healing and reconciliation,

Yours in Faith,

*The Board of Trustees of the
Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Alameda*

Stewardship: The drive is over (with minor clean-up): 27 pledging units with a total of \$28,300 pledged. There were 2 new pledges; 6 increased pledges; 3 decreased pledges; and 4 pledges not renewed.

Financial Report: We will end the fiscal year in the black and be able to put some monies into savings.

Budget Review/Approval: Darlene and David presented the budget (attached) for the coming fiscal year (July 1, 2011-June 30, 2012), which included changes recommended by committees (an increase for our choir director and money for the caring committee). Our ¼-time Director of Religious Education resigned

the position to take a full-time job and Kate Hand offered to run the RE program as a volunteer, so the budget did not include money for that position for now. The board chose to move more money into the Membership Support category for advertising & outreach and for an all-church retreat and also to increase the amount allotted for rental space. Jody moved and Vicky seconded the budget be approved as amended. Unanimous. David will revise the budget and we will send it out to the congregation for review immediately in preparation for the May 7 congregational meeting.

Location Search: Peter, Kate, David and Ruby visited Christ Episcopal Church in Alameda and met with the minister there. Other members of Live Oak will have a chance to see the space at the May 7 congregational meeting. Between now and then David and Vicky will meet with their rental coordinator to negotiate arrangements, should the congregation select this site.

Listening Campaign: The board attended a 6-hour workshop on listening this past Saturday with Jeanelyse. We decided to focus on “cottage” meetings rather than one-on-ones. Lisa will create a doodle with the non-worship service Sundays between mid-May and the end of June to determine which dates work the best for our congregation. We will then select three best dates, choose facilitators, reserve space, and publicize the meetings. We will offer childcare. Lisa will write a blurb for the newsletter. Peter will write a longer piece more fully explaining the purpose. Darlene will see if she can borrow a computer projector for the meeting(s).

Planning Congregational Meeting: The meeting will be in the parish hall at Christ Church Episcopal, May 7, 2-4pm. The main topic will be reviewing and approving the budget and touring the space. The rector will speak with us. We'll need brief annual reports from committees. We would like to have the choir sing and pianist play to test the acoustics of the hall and the piano. Other possibilities: job fair, pitch for RE, signing people up for the listening meetings. Peter will create the agenda and get it to Lisa to send out. Darlene will be responsible for refreshments for the meeting.

District Assembly: Darlene, Jody, Mindy Mull, and the whole Hand family will attend. Darlene is working on an interim banner for the banner parade. David will help her create the pole.

Next meeting: Discuss membership concerns (number of people total, people willing to carry out ideas); Jody's concerns about Saturday's meeting with Jeanelyse.

How Are the Board and Fellowship Doing? Glad we had the extended conversation this evening; good to work through issues together; good to feel enough trust in the group to be able show our hearts; concerns that a number of people who used to come are no longer attending; unresolved feelings about the meeting with Jeanelyse; feeling very supported by the community.

Lisa read our closing reading and the meeting was adjourned at 9:30.

Action Items – for Board members and guests

- All: Approve minutes on-line
- Peter will re-write letter of agreement to Jeanelyse, send to us and to her
- David will revise budget and send to Lisa to distribute
- David & Vicky will meet with rental person from Christ Church Episcopal
- Lisa will write a blurb on listening, congregational meeting, & more for NL
- Lisa will create a doodle for listening meetings
- Darlene will check on borrowing a projector once we have dates
- Peter will write an article on listening & mission discernment process
- Peter will create the agenda for May 7 congregational meeting and send to Lisa for distribution