

**Minutes of Live Oak UU Fellowship Congregational Meeting
January 11, 2015
Christ Episcopal Church, Alameda, CA**

Call to Order. Board President Jay Roller called the meeting to order at 4: 05 pm. Attending were seventeen members (the minimum number needed is seven) and six guests or non-member friends.

Opening. Jay led the group in opening song and lit the chalice. Richard gave an opening reading.

Election. Paper ballots were distributed to the members present for their consideration of the following candidates for a second two year term on the Board of Directors: Jay Roller, and Kathryn Duke. Judith Heller and Richard Stromer were candidates for re-election to the Nominating Committee.

Action: All four candidates were unanimously elected to second terms.

Bylaws language on filling an unexpired board term. Roger summarized the bylaw changes being presented by the board to the congregation. Some comments and questions were raised by some of the attending members regarding additional issues that might arise regarding unexpired board terms.

Action: By a vote of Aye: 16, Abstain: 1, the By Laws change was approved. The Board agreed to work in the coming months with the congregants who proposed clarifying language on the issues of (a) a limit on the amount of total time served by a board member appointed to an unexpired term, and (b) the maximum length of time someone is allowed to fill an unexpired term on the board before the congregation has an opportunity to elect a new board member.

Update on Monthly Worship Leader selection process. Richard summarized our congregation's search for one person who will lead the fourth Sunday worship service every month. The MWL selection team members are Eric Fethe, Jay Roller, Jackie Roth, and Richard Stromer. They have selected three outstanding candidates who will be leading worship services in January and February. Feedback from individual congregants is strongly encouraged.

U.S. UU History series. Darlene described an exciting Adult Religious Education class series that will happen on the second Sundays of the next five months. Taught by former Cal State University professor Emily Stoper, this class will be open to UUs and other interested individuals throughout the Bay Area.

Children's Religious Education. Kathryn reported that she is working with other congregants to expand our CRE program in many ways, such as more involvement of children and youth in the worship service, a regular schedule of adult volunteers to work with children and youth when they leave the sanctuary for their own class, and other ways of creating fun and learning experiences for

the younger members of families who come to Live Oak services. The new CRE committee of Nancy Balassi, Kathryn Duke, David Fry, and Ximena Rossi will be reaching out to many people as part of this re-energized focus on CRE.

Social Justice & Service Group. Renee summarized to the group the charter of this new committee of Live Oak, whose members are Renee Harper (Chair), Nancy Balassi, Bruce Langley, and Reena Shah. She encouraged everyone to talk with the Group's members after the meeting and at other times about their ideas for social justice and community service activities for Live Oak .

Stewardship Committee report-Roger reported that this year's Stewardship Campaign's theme is "Growing Our Offerings." There will be house parties, and a celebration on April 18.

2015 Goals. Jay presented to the congregation the board's goals for this year:

- 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.

Congregational comments. Jay asked for comments on how things are going overall in the congregation. Commenters were pleased with worship, music, the monthly video discussion series, and creation of the Social Justice & Service Group. Reena suggested creating a Women's Group, as a complement to the Men's Movie Night group. Seri volunteered to organize a Live Oak UU Meetup. Richard encouraged more people to join the choir.

5. Closing Song. Jay led the group in singing Keep on Movin' Forward.

The amended portion of the By Laws now reads:

Article VI. Governance. At each annual meeting, members shall elect a Board of Trustees, all of whom shall be members of the congregation eligible to vote. The Board shall have five (5) members, but that number may be expanded to as many as nine (9) by approval of a congregational meeting. Regular terms of office for Trustees shall be for a period of two (2) years, except that terms for the initial Board shall be a mix of one (1) and two (2) year periods. Regular terms of office for Trustees shall be so fixed at the beginning, or upon any change in the Board composition, to encourage the fewest number of trustees elected each year. No person shall serve as trustee more than five (5) consecutive years. To fill mid-term vacancies, the Nominating Committee shall present a candidate to the Board of Trustees. A vote of the majority of the Board of Trustees will then be required to fill the vacancy on the Board until the next congregational meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Kathryn Sáenz Duke, Secretary of the Board