

**Minutes of Live Oak UU Fellowship Congregational Meeting**  
**January 12, 2014**  
**Christ Episcopal Church, Alameda, CA**

**Call to Order.** Board President Darlene Pagano called the meeting to order at 3: 05 pm, noting that a quorum was present.

1. **Opening.** Jay Roller led the group in an opening song, and David Fry gave a brief financial report.

2. **Congregational feedback.** Darlene asked for feedback from the group on how the fellowship is doing, and everyone made a brief comment. The general sentiment was that people are (a) happy to see this fellowship moving ahead in programming and in attracting visitors, some new friends, and some new members, and (b) pleased to be planning a celebration of Live Oak's 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

3. **Elections.** Three candidates selected by the Nominating Committee were recognized. Their statements appear below. President Pagano asked if was anyone present wishing to nominate an additional candidate (including themselves) for Board of Directors or Nominating Committee; there were no additional nominations. Printed ballots were distributed to everyone present, then folded and gathered by David Fry. While he counted the votes, Jay led the group in the "Jeopardy song," while David counted votes.

**Action Taken:** There was unanimous approval by the congregation of the three candidates (information below) for the positions for which they had been nominated.

4. **UUA Designation as "Welcoming Congregation."** Lisa Fry reminded the group that she had earlier distributed to the entire Live Oak listserv a report on the steps Live Oak has taken toward official designation by the UUA as a "Welcoming Congregation." Live Oak's Welcoming Congregation committee members are Richard Stromer, Bernadette and Lisa Fry, who were joined by others from the congregation at some of the Welcoming Congregation activities undertaken by Live Oak in partnership with the Berkeley Fellowship of UUs.

**Action Taken:** It was moved and seconded that Live Oak UU affirm that we support our Welcoming Congregation Committee in submitting our application to the UUA expressing our desire do to be recognized by the Unitarian Universalist Association as a Welcoming Congregation. President Pagano called for a voice vote on this motion, which was unanimously approved.

5. **Closing Song.** Jay led the group in singing Go Now in Peace.

**Addendum: Information Statements from Candidates Recommended for 2014 Board positions by the Live Oak UU Fellowship Nominating Committee**

**BOARD of DIRECTORS**

**Renee Harper**

Seeking a liberal spiritual community, I first encountered Unitarian Universalism at a Flower Communion Service in 1998, and immediately knew I'd come home to a faith I could live with. Over the years, as a member of that first church, I served in multiple roles (Women's Retreat Coordinator, Membership Convenor, Board of Trustees Member, and Capital Campaign Lead Gifts Co-Chair). Outside of our fellowship, I recharge my spiritual batteries by reading and sharing poetry, being in nature (gardening and hiking) and painting and drawing. I'm grateful for the existence of our Live Oak Fellowship, our presence as a new and welcoming faith in Alameda, and appreciate the opportunity to contribute as a member of the Board.

**BOARD of DIRECTORS**

**Roger Hallsten**

I have been involved with Live Oak Fellowship since 2009, and am very grateful for the support and friendships I have here. I served on the boards of both of my previous UU congregations, and hope now to help strengthen Live Oak.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

**Niels Kjellund**

I live in Alameda and was one of Live Oak's founding members, after belonging to the First Unitarian Church of Oakland. Prior to that, I and my family were active in the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley (in Kensington), where I served on the Board for several years. Last year I joined Live Oak's Finance committee. By joining the Nominating committee I hope to contribute to the successful growth and development of our Live Oak Fellowship.