

Live Oak UU Fellowship
Congregational Meeting
January 27, 2013 (2:00-4:00 p.m.)
Parish Hall, Christ Episcopal Church

Peter Hand, President of the Board of Trustees, called the meeting to order. Kate Hand led us in song to start the meeting. Richard lit the chalice with an opening reading. There were 19 attendees (3 non-members). Quorum was more than met.

Richard Stromer moved and Kathryn Duke seconded that the agenda be accepted as modified (deleting grant proposal update). Passed unanimously.

Financial Review: Darlene Pagano and David Fry gave a brief financial review. They were asked if money for moving to every Sunday programming was in there and if so, was the amount correct. They noted that money for additional rent, extra for music director and for more honoraria for guest ministers had been included. Peter Hand encouraged the incoming board to be sure to use the money budgeted for a board retreat.

Elections: The nominees for the Board of Trustees and for Nominating Committee (plus continuing members) each had an opportunity to say what drew them to take on the work. Ballots were passed out to members. David Fry counted the ballots. All nominees were elected unanimously.

New Board Members (joining Darlene Pagano and Krista Arrington)

Kathryn Duke

Kate Hand

Jay Roller

New Nominating Committee Members (joining Sally Kennedy)

Judith Heller

Richard Stromer

Every Sunday Programming: We will move forward slowly until we do finally meet every week. Lisa Fry shared a summary of the results of the recent on-line survey we did. Here are some of the highlights of the survey:

- Nearly 50% of us would come 3 Sundays a month, if we meet every Sunday.
- Nearly 80% said they would be drawn to a service led by a minister
- 66% said they would like a guest minister once a month
- More than 50% said they would come for TED talks, Tapestry of Faith curricula, e.g.
- More than 58% said they would come for Taize, Evensong, meditation, e.g.
- Many were interested in Sunday programs focused on Social Justice

Peter noted Renee Harper has volunteered to help coordinate the additional Sundays. We briefly discussed the different ways to engage a minister: a) pulpit supply – just coming to lead worship when invited; b) selecting a consulting minister who would preach regularly (part-time or full-time) for us and possibly take on other ministerial functions; and c) calling a minister, a longer more involved process to choose a spiritual leader for the congregation, one who leads worship, provides pastoral care, and guides the congregation's administration and spiritual focus. Following a request to discuss this more, we said that it would be on the agenda for the congregational meeting on Sunday, March 24.

Welcoming Congregation: Richard Stromer explained briefly the Welcoming Congregation (WC) program and encouraged as many as possible to participate in the classes we are co-sponsoring with the Berkeley Fellowship of UUs. These classes are the first step in the process of being identified as a Welcoming Congregation. Richard, Lisa Fry, and Bernadette Alexander will lead the WC team.

Stewardship Tea and Discussion: In preparation for our Stewardship efforts, David Fry asked people to divide into groups of 2, 3, or 4 to answer. People were given time to get tea or coffee and some refreshments to take to a table where their group was to gather.

1. How did we end up here? What do we value about this Fellowship? What more do we want?
2. How do we think we can raise the money needed to provide the things we want from the Fellowship?
3. What can we do as individuals to help each other steward the Fellowship without needing a lot more money?

After discussing in groups, we gathered as a whole and shared a few ideas expressed: Adult Religious Educational (transformational); Offering a Musical Event for the larger community; Yard Sale. The group also had some suggestions for the Stewardship team on what materials they would like to see, which included: Guideline for pledges based on income level; Anonymous list of what Live Oak members currently pledge; and for current pledging members, a reminder of what last year's pledge amount was.

Kate led us in a very appropriate closing song, the flame was extinguished and the meeting ended (4:05 p.m.) Many thanks to those who helped clean up the meeting room and kitchen.