

Unitarian Universalist Church of Tampa
Church Council Meeting
April 20, 2008

The meeting was called to order by Bill Blymiller at 12:28 P.M.

Minutes of the previous meeting in July 2007 were accepted by consensus.

Committee Reports

Aesthetics

Members and their jobs: Jamie Hendrickx – Chair; Pat Benedict & Kathi Dorman – members

Regular meetings? No – as needed

Method of typical communication among members: Phone

Project you would like to adopt for the year:

- Obtain/make “vestments” for wooden stands around podium (several different basic colors)
- Obtain/make triangular ¼ length curtains for windows (curtains will match stands)
- Introduce a binder for all sign up sheets including (but not limited to) friendship dinners, flowers for services, holiday events such as the Seder Dinner and Christmas Eve Hot Fudge Sundae Social, RUUGs excursions, YAG events, phone/address/name corrections for updating the directory, etc.

What you have been doing:

- Took down all bulletin boards in foyer and replaced with single bulletin board in hallway
- Keeping the bulletin board updated
- Decorating the church for Sunday services (although, this has been sporadic)
- Assisted with decorating for Rev. Sara’s installation
- Investigated purchasing a fountain for the church (will continue to investigate and discuss)
- With Judy Lehman, we helped design the layout of the ministers’ photos. (Thank you to Pat and Ed Benedict for hanging them)
- Painted foyer (thank you to Grant Wilson and Ralph Lehman)

Plans:

What positions might become vacant or positions needed:

We could always use some more help, but we work well as we are now. As far as I know, no one is leaving.

What is your budget request for the next year?

We would just like to *have* a budget for next year. Ideally, \$250.

What are the committee’s major expenditures?

- A fountain for the sanctuary (the same one or similar that we had at the installation). This is one of Joe Weinstein’s designs and would be purchased directly through him or through Barb Weisman’s shop. Cost: Approximately \$150.

- Basic colored fabrics to use for the “vestments” and curtains described above. Approx. \$100 Pat and I plan to quilt them to save on costs of buying anything pre-made.

Accessibility

Members and their jobs: Tempie Taudte and Suzie Siegel, co-chairs
Jonathan Roudabush, member

Regular meetings? No

Method of typical communication among members: Email and telephone

Projects you would like to adopt for the year:

- Build ramp and railing for gazebo to make it more accessible.
- Pave 3 more parking spaces for people who use wheelchairs.
- Consider an interpreter for American Sign Language.
- Consider tearing down the wall to the storage room and converting the women’s restroom into a truly accessible “family” restroom.

Plans:

What is your budget request for the next year? \$2,000

Building and Grounds Bill Blymiller reported on the activities of the Building and Grounds. The report focused on the plans to continue to update and repair the small dome. After the leak is fixed the inside ceiling will be painted, there are plans in place to paint the outside, and the windows are being redone to fix the leaks.

By-laws, Policy and Procedure

Members and their jobs:

Ralph Lehman
Joan Lund
Barbara Nelson
Tempie Taudte

Regular meetings? No

Method of typical communication among members: E-mail

Project you would like to adopt for the year:

- Disruptive Behavior P&P
- General Safety P&P
- Donation of Equities P&P
- Such By-Law, Policy and Procedure revisions or additions as are brought to the Committee.

What you have been doing: Enclosed

Plans:

What positions might become vacant or positions needed: Time will tell.

What is your budget request for the next year? No funds required.

What are the committee's major expenditures? Verbiage

What you need/want from the Board or Church: Patience and tolerance

Care

Members and their jobs: six members. Marjorie Acker, Gwen Anderson, Beverly Bethune, Denise Carrera, Willow LaMonte, Suzie Siegel, Robin Leigh, Judy Mintz & Joyce Formica.

Regular meetings? Have not had regular meeting this year.

Method of typical communication among members: we communicate via telephone and e-mail .

Project you would like to adopt for the year: members didn't support my suggestion of a fund raising luncheon.

What you have been doing: companion home visits, sending greeting cards, gave cd's of sermons to senior member, made follow-up phone calls. Suzie Siegel has set up a web site called "Lots of Helping Hands". It is a site where a calendar of needs is posted so individuals can volunteer to provide the service requested. Volunteers could offer their service on a one time or on going basis. We continue to record the Sunday "Joys & Sorrows". Write articles for Domelight requesting people sign up to volunteer their service to the CARE committee ministry and let members know we are available to help.

Plans:

What positions might become vacant or positions needed: Need more people to add to the CARE volunteer list. New chairperson for 2009.

What is your budget request for the next year? \$150.00 would be needed if we continue to purchase small gifts or flowers to hospitalized UUCT members.

What are the committee's major expenditures? Flowers, small gifts, greeting cards, postage.

What you need/want from the Board or Church: We need and want to expand the CARE volunteer list. We are requesting the Board and UUCT members look at and sign up on the new "Lots of Helping Hands" web site.

Charity

Ollis Hughes -- Committee Chair
Mary Francis

JOBS

Collecting food products from church members and other sources, and delivering the donations to the migrant workers food stores.

Organizing and coordinating the foster angel program with hillsborough county.
 We order and receive paper angels with the names and wishes of foster children written on them.
 We set up a lighted christmas tree in the church and hang the angels on it. After the angels are chosen and gifts are collected, a county team is called to the church for to pickup.

MEETINGS AND COMMUNICATIONS

No regular meetings, and communications are verbal.

Committee on Ministry Pat Benedict spoke about the Committee on Ministry and its functions. They meet once a month with the minister to talk about the church and its activities. If you hear of any problems let them know.

Communications

Members and their jobs:

Chris Hendrickx – Domelight newsletter editor
 Mary Francis – Web site
 Heather Roy - Proof reader
 Diana Stevens – egroup manager
 Joyce Formica/Jamie Hendrickx – labels/ mailing
 Suzie Siegel – publicity

Regular meetings?
 Method of typical communication among members:

No
 Email/phone

Project you would like to adopt for the year:

Continue with current efforts

What you have been doing:

- Domelight – production/publication/subscription mailing (approximately 12 mailed)
- Website – continued updates
- Verify at congregational meeting that online Domelight is working. Update committee guidelines depending on meeting input.

Plans:

The Domelight editor is resigning. We need a new Domelight editor before July 2008.

What positions might become vacant or positions needed:

Web costs - Yahoo hosting 9.21 x 12 = 110.52 Domain – cost is \$15 annually.

What you need/want from the Board or Church:

- Newsletter. Mailing costs should be offset by subscriptions
- Explanation on how the budget is defined for the Communications committee.
- WMNF - Currently Clearwater UU coordinates congregation member donations and they pool that money to sponsor a show for advertising. This may work well for us too.

Concert No report, though we discussed the valuable activities of the Concert Committee and its key role in fundraising.

CUUPS

Members & Their Jobs

Council Members - (Must be active members of the Tampa UU Church and Of Cuups National)

Ollis Hughes – Facilitator & Scheduler

Mary Francis – Web - Weaver & Education Coordinator & Soc Gatekeeper.

Chris Hendrickx – Scribe & Herald

Jamie Hendrickx – Treasurer

Ruth Davis - Librarian

Chapter members - (Are members of the UU church and CUUPs national, but not on council)

Jennie Morris

General Members - (are members of CUUPs national)

Associates Of The Chapter (individuals active in the life of the chapter but non members)

Many people from the pagan community come to support full moon celebrations. They help set up and clean up.

They lend their energy and help in whatever is needed.

Sacred Oaks Circle (a Wiccan sub-group affiliated with
CIW CUUPs and CUUPs national)

Mary Francis - Gatekeeper

Ollis Hughes - Initiate

Ruth Davis - Initiate

Jamie Hendrickx - Initiate

Chris Hendrickx - Initiate

Virginia De Zayas. Initiate

Amy Shilliday - Initiate

Katrina Lemer - Initiate

Christen Cauldwell Dedicant

Kimberly Rogers Dedicant

Regular Meetings

CUUPs meets on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 pm, and the meeting is followed by a work shop.

We also meet on the forth Monday of each month for drum circle and discussion. (on hold at present)

Full moon celebrations are held on the Saturday closest to the full moon each month. All of the above are open to the public.

Sacred oaks circle meets monthly for class and planning.

Also for each of the eight Sabbats. And for all FMC'S

Method Of Typical Communication Among Members

E-mail, phone, church web site, and many gatherings.

Projects We Are Wanting To Adopt This Year

We are planning the fourth witch's masquerade ball
And we would like to offer more than one church service during the year

What We Have Been Doing This Year

We just completed our annual Wicca 101 classes that took place in the first quarter of 2008.
This class wrote, prepared, and performed the full moon celebration on saturday april 19th 2008.

CUUPs is planning workshops and monthly classes for the remainder of this year and into 2009.

Soc held a first degree elevation ritual, and two second degree elevations in march.

Plans

All council positions are filled thru October of 2008, and hopefully there will be no changes.

We need no change in our budget

Our major expenditures are for Wicca 101 supplies, our CUUPs chapter dues, and supplies for the witch's ball

What We Need From the Board Or Church

The continued support and caring that they have shown during the past year. Thank you!

Finance Jay Hall talked about the committee and how it works with the Treasurer.

Fund Raising

Members and their jobs: Every Church Committee

Regular meetings? Church council meeting plus individual fundraising meetings for specific events.

Method of typical communication among members: Church Council Meetings, email, phone, one-one contact

Project you would like to adopt for the year: Every Committee to identify a fundraiser and schedule something at least once a month.

What you have been doing: Aug—Spaghetti Dinner, Sept—Miracle Sunday (led by Diana) Oct—Masquerade Ball (CUUPS), Dec—Auction (led by Russell & Candy) March—Gayla led by Interweave.

Remember the Concert Committee (Gloria) is on-going and brings in most of the money!

Plans:

What positions might become vacant or positions needed: Someone may like to have a different approach to Fundraising and I would give up being chair!

What is your budget request for the next year? We have not had a budget but given all the proceeds (profit) to the church.

What are the committee's major expenditures? Seed money is often an issue but in most fundraisers we have many generous donations.

What you need/want from the Board or Church: Lower the fundraising needs.

Green Group

Members and their jobs:

Susan Williams - Chair

Tom Krumreich – in charge of Fair Trade Coffee Sales

Grant Wilson – in charge of Community Garden project

Regular meetings? Yes – every Sunday at 9:45am

Method of typical communication among members: Group discussion at meetings, yahoo group for group-wide communication

Project you would like to adopt for the year:

Conduct an environmental Audit – this is step 2 to become a Green Sanctuary as defined/certified by the UU Ministry for Earth. While we are not certain we have the resources in the group, nor have we asked the Board to vote on this action, we would like to at least complete the Audit to see what we can do at UUCT to be more green.

Community Garden – not enough interest in the church itself to start this project so Grant will be reaching out to the community for interest for Temple Terrace residents.

What you have been doing:

1. Formally became a committee – thanks to the Board!
2. Fundraising with coffee sales
3. Sharing information among group members
4. New this year – UUCT Green Group Yahoo group
5. Invited Extension office speaker to come to speak to the group about Florida Friendly planting, water conservation, etc.
6. Planned for 4/20 – exhibiting a UUCT Green Group table at the Earth Day festivities at Lowry Park

Plans:

What positions might become vacant or positions needed:
Always looking to recruit more environmental activists

What is your budget request for the next year? \$100

What are the committee's major expenditures?

Exhibiting at various environmental expos (i.e. Earth Day at Lowry Park)

What you need/want from the Board or Church: Support for the environmental audit

Interweave Magda Santos and Rom Delacroix talked about participation at the Pride celebrations and on the successful GAYLA fundraiser event.

Membership

Members and their jobs: Co-chairs: Judy Lehman and Lynn Parrish

Regular meetings? 3rd Tuesday of the month 3pm: Rev. Sara, Joyce Formica, Ralph & Judy Lehman

Method of typical communication among members: lots of emailing. We have set up a group email for all the folks who work on Membership (too many to list)

Project you would like to adopt for the year: Be welcoming to all who enter our doors and grow our membership.

What you have been doing: Working with the greater Tampa area during this marketing campaign to be sure we are welcoming Guests and encouraging them to seek a path to Membership. Currently we have 116 members up from 108 as of February 1, 2008.

Plans:

What positions might become vacant or positions needed: We would like more folks available to be Visitor Greeters (training required) or Ushers (willing to be the 2nd Money Counter). (i.e. you are not alone)

What is your budget request for the next year? \$400

What are the committee's major expenditures? Name tags, new member receptions.....

What you need/want from the Board or Church: Lots of Love and Support—It takes a Village!

Nominating Committee

Members and their jobs: Jamie Hendrickx, Grant Wilson, Martha Robinson

Regular meetings? No – only as needed

Method of typical communication among members: Phone and/or email

Project you would like to adopt for the year: Fill the volunteer positions vacant at the church with a candidate who skills match the requirements. We have been working these as the board suggests them to us. We need to continue to compile and organize committee chair job descriptions and qualifications for said positions.

What you have been doing: We have been filling committee chair positions as requested by the BOT. Thus far, we have successfully submitted 5 names and biographies to the congregation for the Board of trustees vacant positions. The other committee chairs that have been filled include the Charles Weingartner UUCT Scholarship Endowment and the Stewardship drive committee chair has been determined. Our current project includes finding an appropriate match for the Endowment fund committee chair.

Plans:

What positions might become vacant or positions needed: We are on a 3-year cycle, so the next position will open in approximately 1 year. We function well as a team, and anticipate no changes in the near future.

What is your budget request for the next year? none

What are the committee's major expenditures? none

What you need/want from the Board or Church: We will continue to require assistance with establishing job descriptions and qualifications lists for the various positions we are assigned to fill. It would be helpful to have a list of committees with descriptions and current chairs and/or members. We ask for the continued cooperation and patience of the BOT as we develop this committee's procedures and records.

Planning

Members and their jobs: Ara Rogers, convener; Kaarla McKenzie, RE liaison; Joan Lund, Gene Pizzo.
Bill Blymiller, Board liaison.

Regular meetings? Approximately monthly, generally Tuesday evenings.

Method of typical communication among members: email

Project you would like to adopt for the year:

The planning committee is tasked with managing the RE building project. This includes planning the building, construction, and the capital campaign which will fund this project. This will be a multi-year project and we hope will involve much of the church.

The building project will require assembling a variety of committees, including: Building Design committee, Capital Campaign Steering committee, Construction committee. The planning committee will work with the board to recruit members to serve on those committees and help them understand their tasks. The planning committee will work with the UUA consultant to manage the process and keep the project on track.

What you have been doing:

Developing a five year plan for the church. Hiring a UUA consultant to advise on the building and capital campaign projects. Understanding the scope of the building project and all its associated tasks.

Plans:

What positions might become vacant or positions needed: We need a recorder for the committee.

What is your budget request for the next year? \$28,000

What are the committee's major expenditures?

\$11,000 in consultant fees

\$15,000 in architect fees

\$2,000 to solicit communications and input from the congregation at various points in the building process. Projected funds projected postage, congregational/small group gatherings and other.

What you need/want from the Board or Church:

We need a supportive and positive working environment. We ask that when our plans are unclear or are not understood, when there are questions, concerns and comments, that these be raised, not suppressed, and openly discussed. This is a big project and we are going to need a lot of help. It is our intention that this project help build our community, not cause rifts or division. That is going to take a lot of vigilance on all our parts. We seek a community environment of appreciation, trust and compromise.

Canvas (Stewardship) Jamie Hendrickx reported that she will head up the Stewardship campaign and be aided by Pat Benedict, Fran Davin, and Ara Rogers.

RE Candy Gale reported on the activities of the RE committee. Attendance is good and they could always use more teachers. Candy would also like a co-chair. **Adult RE** Ollis Hughes reported that we have the movie nights, meditation activities, Wicca 101, and Building Your Own Theology planned or going on.

Social Action No report

Technology Jay Hall reported that the technology committee has been keeping computers and networks up to date. Jay reported that there is a need for a new copier, but there is no way yet to work out the finances.

Worship Program Committee is operating and has the program planned for the next months. Participation is good and things are going well. If anyone has suggestions about services they should contact Pat Benedict, Interim Chairperson, or Harriet Blymiller, Chairperson on sabbatical.

Respectfully submitted,



Bill Blymiller
Treasurer – Board of Trustees