

Olympia Unitarian Universalist Congregation (OUUC)

Congregational Meeting

April 29, 2016

7:00 pm

Meeting Minutes

The spring congregational meeting of the Olympia Unitarian Universalist Congregation was held on Friday, April 29, 2016, at 7:00 PM at the church. The Board President, Mary Anne Trause chaired the meeting. Also present were board members: Vice president, Michele Hendrickson; Treasurer, Mark Swanson; Secretary, Helen Henry; and members-at-large Alice Curtis, Jerald Dodson, Des McGahern, Jack Jackson and Lorrie Eaton.

7:00 **Welcome** by Mary Anne Trause, OUUC board chair

7:03 **Invocation** by the Rev. Emily Melcher

7:06 A quorum was determined, (81 present) as counted by board member Jack Jackson.

7:08 The **congregational covenant** was read by Mary Anne Trause with the congregation.

7:09 **Minutes approved** of the congregational meeting of December 18, 2015, available on line.

7:10 **Election of new Board Members**

Karmel Shields, from the Leadership Development Committee, presented the Board candidates with a short bio for each: Jim Anest, Martha Nicoloff, and Wendy Tanner.

Motion to approve candidates was made and seconded. Motion carried.

7:13 **Election of new Leadership Development Committee Members**

Karmel Shields, from the Leadership Development Committee, presented the Leadership Development Committee candidates, Samantha Ritchie and Tom Best with a short bio of each.

Motion to approve the slate of new Leadership Development Committee candidates was made and seconded. Motion carried.

7:15 Leadership appreciation

Karmel Shields recognized the current board members and presented small chalice pins in appreciation.

She also acknowledged the leaders in social justice activities, and other members who exhibit a strong commitment to OUUC.

7:20 Proposed Bylaw Changes

Mark Swanson presented the proposed changes to Bylaw 6 and 7.

By law 7 was discussed first.

The following motion was made by Steve Tilley. It was seconded.

“The body of OUUC Bylaw 7, titled Committees, be replaced with the following:

- A. The Board or its delegee may authorize certain standing and temporary Committees to perform designated functions to further the purposes of the Congregation.*
- B. The Board or its delegee shall establish written policies describing the composition and responsibilities of such committees.*

During discussion a motion was made by Jim Lengenfelder to amend the motion to “add part C. Reinstate the Committee on Ministry.”

The motion to amend was seconded.

Discussion of the amendment followed.

Amendment to “add Part C. reinstate the Committee on Ministry” failed by a counted vote.

Discussion on original motion resumed.

8:05 Motion “The body of OUUC Bylaw 7,…” carried by a voice vote.

8:07 After a brief explanation of Bylaw 6 by Mark, the following motion was made.

“OUUC Bylaw 6, titled ‘Program Council,’ be eliminated, that all references to the Program Council in other bylaws be removed, and that Bylaws 7 and following be renumbered to reflect the elimination of Bylaw 6. “

Discussion followed.

Motion carried.

8:10 Update on board’s work by Michele Hendrickson

Michele gave a brief time line of the past year’s activities of the board: trainings with Unity consultant Laura Park, congregational gatherings to “Capture our Ends”, the writing and re-writing of Ends Statement, adopting of boiler plate policies edited to fit specific OUUC needs, and delegating the role of executive to the minister.

8:15 Update on Ministerial Search Process by Chris Parke

Chris gave a review of the search process and description of the upcoming candidating week with the Rev. Thomas Perchlik -- May 1-May 8.

8:20 Proposal Regarding Move to Amend by Nancy Curtiss

Nancy presented the history of Supreme Court decision ***Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission***, which allowed unlimited election spending by individuals and corporations. She then discussed the *Move to Amend Resolution* and referred to previous actions by UU General Assemblies supporting actions to overturn “Citizens United.”

The following motion was moved and seconded by several members.

“That OUUC support the constitutional amendment proposed by Move to Amend and to endorse the objectives of that amendment.”

Motion carried unanimously.

8:30 Proposal Regarding Black Lives Matter by the Rev. Carol McKinley

Carol gave a history of the Standing Up to Racism group and their activities in the greater Olympia community.

She then entertained the following motion.

“That the Standing Up to Racism group, on behalf of OUUC, will hang a banner on the outside east wall of the religious education wing that reads, “Black Lives Matter.” (Olympia Unitarian Universalist Congregation)

It was moved by Steve Tilley and seconded.

Discussion followed.

During discussion a motion was made by Rich Kalman to amend the motion to “add the word **too** at the end of Black Lives Matter banner.”

The motion to amend was seconded.

Discussion continued on the amendment.

Amendment to “add the word **too** at the end of the banner” failed by voice vote.

Discussion of the original motion resumed.

Motion “That the Standing Up to Racism group....” passed by voice vote.

8:55 **Closing** by the Rev. Emily Melcher

8:56 **Meeting adjourned.**

Mary Anne Trause,
Board President

Helen Henry
Board Secretary