

Olympia Unitarian Universalist Congregation (OUUC)

Congregational Meeting

December 15, 2017

7:00 pm

Meeting Minutes

Present were OUUC Board chair, Linda Selsor, Secretary, Helen Henry, Treasurer, Wendy Tanner, and other members at large: Martha Nicoloff, Jim Anest. Michele Hendrickson, John Tafejian, Fritz Wrede.

Before the meeting officially began Susan Dodson was honored for her “above and beyond” work with the Stewardship team.

7:00 **Opening Words** were read by Rev. Eric Posa, “Life is a Gift”

7:05 **Reading of Covenant** by all present.

7:10 **Verification of Quorum** (20% of 273) Jim Anest and Martha Nicoloff counted 65 voting members present, which is above required quorum of 55.

7:11 **Adoption of Agenda** No objections, so agenda was adopted.

7:12 **Comment on rules** President Linda Selsor reminded those present that OUUC By-Laws state that the President of the Board of Trustees acts as the presiding officer of congregational meetings.

Review procedures for the evening

Motion to suspend rule requiring formal address No objections, so adopted.

7:13 **Approve minutes of October 20, 2017 Special Congregational Meeting**
No objections, therefore October 20, 2017 minutes were approved.

7:14 **Reports on activities since the May 2017 congregational meeting:**

From the Minister Rev. Eric Posa's comments looked to the future. OUUC will have a focus on the *2018 Year of Environmental Justice*. Also, there are plans to strengthen the thematic monthly discussions, "Soul Matters." Plans are to start offering lunch on the second Sunday when those "Soul Matters" discussions are scheduled. Announcements will be posted on the big screen and the flat screen in the commons area before and after services. Significant progress is being made in implementing Policy Governance, with a monitoring schedule of meeting our *OUUC Ends*.

From the Board Vice President Don Melnick gave a review (via recorded video) of Board events, occurring May 2017 through December 2017.

Highlights are as follows: The Rev. Carol McKinley served as bridge minister through the summer. A Congregant search committee recommended Rev. Eric Posa to serve as interim minister. Spring linkage meetings with congregants indicated a desire to explore selling the next door "annex" property and a special meeting in October where congregation authorized the board to proceed with selling the property. Policy governance continues to develop as the board's understanding grows with the help of Unity consultant Laura Park and the Rev. Eric Posa's experience. By-laws and policies are being reviewed to become more consistent with Policy governance. The board's Policy Governance operations monitoring schedule has been refined and endowment policy and procedures have been incorporated into the Policy Governance Manual. The board has made efforts to become more visible to congregants with a weekly presence on the OUUC email "blast," and with linkage meetings, and Don reminded everyone that board members were always available during "coffee" between services on Sundays.

7:30 Approve Welcoming Congregation Resolution The Rev. Carol McKinley gave some historical background and introduced the resolution.

OUUC received its Welcoming Congregation certification from the UUA in 1992. As many changes in society and our congregations have occurred over the past 25 years, the Unitarian Universalist Association recommends that we renew OUUC's certification. We will, in the next 12 months, include Welcoming Congregation awareness, education and action in all aspects of OUUC's ministry.

The board has previously approved the following motion. UUA requests that the congregation also approve.

Motion: The Welcoming Congregation Renewal team requests that OUUC's members endorse the work of Faith in Action Ministry's Welcoming Congregation Renewal program as we live out OUUC's commitment to ensuring that lesbian,

gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer, are full members of our faith community and that everyone's identity, background, and experiences are honored

After some general questions and comments an amendment was offered:
“*transgender, queer **and other gender identifications** are full members...*”

The amended motion, *The Welcoming Congregation Renewal team requests that OUUC's members endorse the work of Faith in Action Ministry's Welcoming Congregation Renewal program as we live out OUUC's commitment to ensuring that lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and other gender identifications are full members of our faith community and that everyone's identity, background, and experiences are honored.* was moved seconded, and approved by the congregation by voice vote.

7:50 **Overview of 2018 proposed budget** Wendy Tanner presented background information regarding pledge history, possible refinancing of building mortgage, and selling of annex. She introduced the 2018 budget and necessary cuts.

Motion made, seconded to “approved the budget as presented.” After a thank you expressed to Wendy Tanner, treasurer, the congregation approved the budget with a voice vote.

8:10 **Closing Words** Rev. Eric Posa formally offered the Rev. Carol McKinley the official PAID position of “Faith in Action Coordinator”. (A new line item in 2018 budget.) Rev. McKinley “humbly accepted.” Applause followed.

Linda Selsor, President

Helen Henry, Secretary