

**FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH**  
**Board of Trustees**  
**Monthly Meeting, Wednesday, April 24, 2013**

Attendance: Nina Lewis, Chuck Wolfe, Bill Keating, Dennis Rankin, David Douglass, Leslie Armstrong, Dan Baer, Cecilia Phillips, Youth Rep.

Beth Jewell, Chair, Tim Hooks, Past Chair, John McCrystal, Co-Chair, Phyllis Byard, Treasurer, Betsy Duckworth, Secretary.

Staff: Rev. Mark, Senior Minister, Jolinda Stevens, DRE, Brian Hagemann, Church Administrator.

Absent: Rev Eric: On Church conference business.

Guests: Judy Kleen, Anita Bucknam, Christine Davidson, Greg Raffio, Dave Richter

<b>1</b>	Chalice Lighting, Centering, Check in (Bill Keating-Board Reading)
<b>2</b>	Consent Agenda: Tim Hooks moved to approve the March 2013 Board meeting minutes as they stand and Chuck Wolfe seconded. Unanimous voted to approve.
<b>3</b>	Staff Report highlights. See attached reports. Brian reported that the lawyer who has handled the insurance claim for our roof issue has left his firm and we are looking at our legal options with Chas Williams who is reviewing the situation. The roof claim has been reduced to approximately \$650,000 to repair but still, estimates may be higher. We will try to pursue our legal options on a contingency basis so that will not be out of pocket to the church and to recoup our expenses.
<b>4</b>	Treasurer's Report (Phyllis): There is a mistake on the attached Treasurer's Report to the Board: Line 5, page one, which shows the amount we would have received from actual pledges is \$51, 989 instead of \$51,589 which is the actual number. Last year we had a \$33,465 in actual pledges at this time but collection on payment is significantly lower this year, resulting in net income which is significantly lower this year. Expenses are neck and neck with this year's income and the budget is tight. Our endowment fund has done well, however, which allows us \$12,000 more in income but our pledge payments need to keep pace with our budgeted commitments and reduced pledge payments and the reduction of new members and their contributions continue to challenge us.
<b>5</b>	Leadership Development Committee liaison/GA delegate selection (Tim): No new business to report
<b>6</b>	Capital Campaign Presentations—Discussion of options to improve the church facilities and development of Board-recommended preliminary priorities. Affirming our UU principles, we look at our goals: Sustaining our church home and support our continued growth with green facility upgrades and expansion, to sustain our church finances, and welcoming change and members, sustaining and nurturing our broader community.

Over the next five-six weeks, we will be collecting information about what matters to the congregation and what the congregation wants to see and achieve for all of us. The plan for discussion is to look at the Worship Center Roof, which is under study, the classroom addition proposed which would bring in four more indoor classrooms, window and north corridor upgrades would allow access to the classrooms on the north end of the church without energy loss and increase safety.

Restroom renovation and south corridor expansion for access is necessary and is estimated at \$360,000. The repair/replacement of the worship center and worship gallery doors that are disintegrating and their repair/replacement would be estimated at \$160,000-\$200,000 but would give us savings in terms of energy efficiency. Paying off the mortgage balance of \$550,000 would free up funds to direct to these projects but even if we paid off a portion of the mortgage, for example, \$200,000, this allows us to direct some funds to these areas in need of repair, replacement and corrective attention.

Greg Raffio from Go Sustainable Energy gave a presentation to the board. Go Sustainable energy are energy efficiency consultants, and Greg presented their options for our church capital campaign plans. There are wonderful options available for energy reduction and related savings in structural terms and they can present these options as discussion proceeds. So far, they have donated \$5,000 in free consulting time to us. They are available for questions from all. They are located at 3709 N. High street, Suite 100, Columbus 43214, and phone is 614-268-4263. Greg can be reached at extension 305 or [graffio@gosustainableenergy.com](mailto:graffio@gosustainableenergy.com). They are providing free consulting until they can see a financial commitment from a Capital Campaign from which we could implement their ideas. They work with AEP to lower our costs and provide us with alternative sources which permit us the AEP breaks. So far, their energy audit shows we expend 70% of energy resources on lighting energy and we can reduce that tremendously with the right green energy structures.

Jolinda Stephens reported that we are over occupancy limits in the toddler room which means classroom shifting has to occur. Other class sizes are near or at capacity. We have increased our Sunday School attendance by 55% in just five years so we need to grow our space to accommodate the growth of the church. Sunday School is still a big draw for our congregation and we don't just want to give the children space but more classrooms and smaller class sizes. We need smaller spaces to foster better adult-child connections. Teachers would be able to communicate UU values more effectively, and attachment can occur in smaller spaces. Smaller community settings actually permit connections on a thinking and emotional brain level. Any of our teachers can tell you that connections occur with more space and meta studies show reduced class size allows the message to get across and absorbed. We do lose attendance when class size gets too large. If we

	<p>want to continue to bring in more families and not lose the ones we have, we need to address the classroom situation. We encourage our youth in our values, we need to have the space to get the message to them. They want this and we want to give them the space to grow and get them where they want to go. R.E. families represent a significant pledging source and their needs and desire need to be addressed. Board comments included the priority of paying off the mortgage which will permit us to engage in these goals. David Douglas commented that refinance rates have never been so low and terms of repayment could be beneficial for us. Others promoted getting SYC involved although they do not have classroom issues as they limit class size anyway, though they carry a large waiting list.</p> <p>All agreed that the Board's focus is not the goal - the focus is for the congregation to decide our goals as a church community, addressing needs now and to plan to grow for the future.</p> <p><b>These will all be discussed in the presentation sessions.</b></p>
10	Announcements, Thank You Notes n/a
9	Adjourn

**IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:**

**Saturday, April 27, 2013 10:30 AM-1:30PM Reproductive Justice Empowerment Workshop at First UU (childcare available) RSVP 766-4223 / [janelarson47@gmail.com](mailto:janelarson47@gmail.com)**

***Tuesday, April 30, 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM Capital Campaign Presentation Facilitator Training in Room 7***

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PRESENTATION DATES:**

**Sunday, May 5, 12:30 – 2:00 pm**

**Thursday, May 9, 6:30-7:30 pm**

**Tuesday, May 14, 6:30 – 8:00 pm**

**Wednesday, May 15, 7:00 – 8:30 pm**

**Sunday, May 19, 12:30-2:00 pm**