

Minutes of the Executive Board, Oaklandon UU Church August 9, 2015

Board members present:

Sharon L. Sims
Pat Matthews
Michael Cohen
Tom Osgood
Linda Rice
Peggy Butrum Griffith

Non-Board members present:

Kaye McSpadden

Sherry lit the chalice and called the meeting to order at 8:35am.

Minutes

Tom made a motion to approve the Minutes of the July 12, 2015 meeting. The motion was seconded and was passed.

Financial Report

Sherry passed out copies of a financial report. Charlotte is still working on developing a new format and layout that will be helpful to the Board. Total income at the end of June was \$4460.81 and total expenses were \$1750.59. Tom asked how a recent check that was received for a previous year pledge was entered into the books. Tom will follow up with Charlotte. Tom made a motion to approve the financial report. Michael seconded, and the motion passed.

Sunday Services Team

Sherry reported that the Summer Services team agreed to continue this fall and Kaye will chair for several more months. Plans are currently underway for the fall, including our first-ever thematic series in November. Sherry will talk with Rev. Forrest Gilmore about the possibility of slightly reducing the number of his presentations. Peggy said she would like to join the team. Its next meeting is 8/16 after church.

Social Justice

The Social Justice team is meeting on 8/23 after church.

Buildings and Grounds

1. *Water intrusion*—the Firestone Co did a good job of drying out the basement. The water was just ground water, not sewage, and was due to the unusually heavy rains. Kaye arranged for a junk pickup service to haul away the wet and stinky carpet roll and other items in the closet at the bottom of the stairs. The cost was \$105. Sherry will buy a big wrench in order to check the inspection port for the sewer lines for routine preventative maintenance.
2. *Electrical repairs*—Linda reported that some of the ceiling lights in the basement could not be turned off. The first electrician she consulted recommended a significant re-wiring project, but a second electrician said the problem could be fixed by replacing the relay switch. Linda made arrangements for this repair, which cost \$120. The lights are now working properly.
3. *Misc*—
 - Linda will contact the locksmith to repair the loose cylinder on the side door lock.

- Sherry will contact the 7th Day Adventists regarding their offer to make the ceiling plaster repairs in the basement.
- Kaye asked for permission to dispose of the big blonde desk in the upstairs office. Peggy made a motion to allow this. Pat seconded, and the motion passed.

4. *Foundation problems*—The first company we consulted, Accu-Level, recommended a repair job with estimated cost of \$55,000. Linda sought a second opinion from United Dynamics. They did not agree that the problem was that significant. They felt the only problem was possibly in the north basement wall (see crack near kitchen dish-return window) and that buckling of the stained glass windows is not due to foundation problems. Several board members felt it might be worthwhile to consult an independent building engineer. Michael will seek recommendations and find out about how much this would cost.

Socrates Cafe update

Sherry reported that Dave Stout, coordinator of Socrates Cafe, has indicated they may no longer want to meet in the church basement. Sherry suggested they consider the newly-cleaned office upstairs. There may be other reasons they no longer want to meet at the church. Sherry reminded us that Socrates is a program “in” the church, not “of” the church, and income from their sessions is negligible.

Childcare

Sherry, Kaye, and Tammy would like to continue the current childcare/nursery arrangement through the church year. An additional \$500 will be needed to accomplish this goal. Tom made a motion to move \$500 from Reserves for this purpose. Pat seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Liza is considering the position.

Administrative Assistant (A.A.) position

Sherry highlighted the administrative and facilities-related tasks on the job description that need to be prioritized. Tom pointed out that the A.A. may work with volunteers to get some of the tasks fulfilled. Kaye will work with the Sunday Services Team to explore creative ways to handle the weekly Order of Service so it doesn't become a huge time-burden for the A.A. We may want one person on the board to be the primary liaison to the A.A. (so that she/he does not have 40 different bosses). Roughly, we are thinking this position will average 4 hours/week, with pay of roughly \$15/hr. Everyone understands that the position is somewhat experimental. All agreed that we will evaluate how it has worked out at the end of next May.

Action plan: Sherry will re-work the job description and send to Kaye to post in the church newsletter, website, facebook, Craig's List, and any other appropriate venues we can think of. Applicants will be asked to submit resume to Sherry. Sherry will work with the Board to interview applicants and make the final decision. It is our hope that this person can begin work in mid-September. Tom pointed out that there may be some opposition to this plan within the congregation. Sherry will write an article for the newsletter explaining why the board is taking this action. Tom made a motion to approve the action plan for the new position. Linda seconded, and the motion passed.

Consultant

There is no new information about the plan to bring in a Midwest Regional Consultant. Sherry is still investigating this option.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00AM.

NEXT MEETING: Sunday Sept 13, 2015, at 8:30AM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kaye McSpadden.