**NATURE COAST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS, INC.**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

MINUTES

Dec. 14, 2020

**Attendees:**

**In Person:** Bree

**Zoom:** John, Connie, Pam, Don, Amy, Tom, Margo

**Visitor Via Zoom:** Rob

**I. NCUU Covenant.** John read the covenant. All agreed to abide by it.

**II. Approval of the Minutes of Nov. 9, 2020, Oct. 19, 2020, and June 8, 2020.** The board approved the minutes of each meeting. The minutes of the October and November meetings are to have asterisks stating that the financial information about the Media and Technology Committee’s budget, which was discussed in October and November, is accurately reflected in the September minutes and in the letter that was sent to the congregation, asking for approval of a budget transfer. The financial information in the October and November minutes reflects what was stated at the meetings but is inaccurate.

The board also agreed to resolve another issue that was raised in approving the previous minutes. It recommended the bylaws be amended to increase the number of members of the Executive Committee from four to five. The committee’s composition would be: president, vice president, clerk, and two board members. All would have voting rights. With five members, tie votes should be avoided. Amy volunteered to be the fifth board member. The Executive Committee won’t be expanded until after voting on the bylaw change at the April annual congregation meeting. Amy moved and Don seconded that the minutes be approved. The vote was unanimous.

**III.**  **Treasurer's Report.** Rob reported that the Finance Committee met on Dec. 12. He said that on the Balance Variance Report, “Advertising” funds that appeared separately through October now appear in the Media and Audio budget. In November, $180 was spent in advertising. He said the Finance Committee also discussed the “Other Income” line, which shows $575.35. That money really is not “Other Income.” Rather, it reflects money that was collected for Joan Burnett’s portrait and for the Relief Fund. Rob said $880 was collected for the portrait, and NCUU paid out $650 for the picture, so there is a balance. The Relief Fund collected $505, which has been sent out. NCUU also collected $570 for the Family Resource Center in Hernando and had planned to buy bicycles for children for Christmas. Rob said that unfortunately, bikes aren’t available at local bike shops because China isn’t making them fast enough during the pandemic. Walmart reported it has bicycles, but people have to purchase them quickly after they are put out on the floor.

John asked if the bicycle shop in Inverness was contacted. Pam said it wasn’t, but the director of the Family Resource Center said she would accept a check. Rob said the congregation also has donated three used bikes. Pam said her neighbor was going to help transport two bicycles and Rob already has donated and delivered his bicycle. Pam said when she presented the check, she’d try to arrange for a photo to be shot and for the photo to be published in the Citrus County Chronicle.

Amy asked that the line that says “Media/Audio” be changed to say, “Media and Technology Committee.” The board accepted the Balance Variance Report (BVR) for November. Rob said the checking account, as of Dec. 2, had $6,865.20. The savings account had $220,288.02.

IV. President's Report – John said he really has nothing to report. He said he thought he   
 might start taking some classes through UUA. He said UUA has some good   
 leadership classes available.

V. Clerk’s Report  
 The clerk said her concerns already had been handled under the discussion above under   
 “Approval of the minutes.”

VI. Standing Committee Reports

Building (Matthew Ciszewski) John said Matthew, Connie, Gordon, and John met with a man who is interested in turning a window in the church into a door. However, the permitting process and COVID is slowing down progress. Connie said others who have said they are interested in giving an estimate haven’t gotten back to her yet. Ron Whitehead is the only person who has gotten back so far. Connie asked that if anyone knew anything about Ron’s work, they should contact her.   
  
Bylaws (Amy Haiken) The board voted to accept the attached NCUU version of Robert’s Rules of Order. Amy proposed adding an item that the congregation be able to vote electronically and that a quorum be allowed to be constituted electronically if the conditions warrant. Amy moved that the proposal be accepted and Bree seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Caring (Connie Hart) Connie said the committee is working on getting more people on  
 Zoom and also on getting more people called. She said the committee is working on   
 getting copies of sermons sent to people who want them, provided the speaker’s   
 agreement allows for this. The committee also is providing meals to Sheila Woods,  
 who is undergoing chemotherapy treatments. Connie congratulated Don on his 80th   
 birthday.

Council of Committees (Connie Hart) Connie said the council is working on getting a   
 hybrid service. Connie said members are working to get others on Zoom. People who   
 are interested in getting on Zoom should contact Gordy or Amy. So far, John and Matt  
 got Claude on Zoom. Pam called Marilyn and Marilyn got on Zoom, too. Both Claude  
 and Marilyn will be contacted again to follow up. Connie said Bree had talked about other   
 UU churches and about how some of them are prerecording their services. Connie said  
 the Social Justice Committee and Sunday Service Committee are working on a   
 presentation about Rosewood. Connie said work also is underway to do Kitchen Table  
 Forums via Zoom and maybe hybrids thereafter. The Council also will meet again in  
 March, probably in the afternoon, so that Bree and Holly can attend.

Denominational Affairs (Bree Hill) Bree said we are in contact with most congregations in  
our west-central cluster.

Finance (Shirley Leonard) John said much of what the Finance Committee discussed already had been handled under the Treasurer’s Report. He said NCUU hasn’t been spending as much as budgeted, in some instances, because of Zoom. The committee  
will be getting the budgeting process for next year underway. John said he’d contact  
Shirley to see when committees should send in their new budget requests. Connie said  
at least one member is concerned the congregation is not asking members for more   
money. Amy said people have to understand that some people are having financial

difficulties during the pandemic. Rob said he’d be happy to discuss the budget with  
anyone who has concerns.   
  
Grounds (Bree Hill) Bree said the situation pretty much is status quo.

Long Range Planning (Bob Madeiros) No report submitted.

Media & Technology (Amy Haiken, Gordon Hart) Amy said the committee is still waiting to acquire a PC but laptops are hard to acquire because of the pandemic. She   
has some software bills for which she still needs to be reimbursed. There also are  
a few items she needs to acquire, but she said she is waiting until the budget gets more solidified.

Membership (Holly Alexander) Report attached as addendum.

Religious Education (No Chair)

Social Activities (John Comer & Pam Ricker) Dec. 23 Zoom party flyer attached as addendum. John said the committee is asking people to bring fun poems or anecdotes  
and is investigating some games for the Dec. 23 event.   
  
Amy asked if there would be a way to get more people to participate in activities. John  
said with most groups, unfortunately, it’s just a core who really take part. Connie said

it’s hard to get people to read their emails. John said only two people have responded  
to joining a book club. He said when the church was built, some people had the understanding they would “go there, do their thing on Sunday, and then leave.” John said   
that work may need to be done on changing the culture of the church.

Social Justice (Don Wright/Tom Hibberd) Don said the previous discussion had summarized the Social Justice Committee’s activities.

Sunday Service (Pam Ricker) Report attached as addendum. Pam said speakers are   
 booked through April. She said even though the committee had donated $1,000 to   
 the Media and Technology Committee, it looks like the Sunday Service Committee’s  
 budget will be OK. Pam said the committee hasn’t made plans for May because  
 it’s still unknown whether the building will be open then or not. John said he’d like  
 to move in the direction of having hybrid services, although the situation will remain  
 fluid, depending on what happens with the pandemic.

VII. Old Business

A. (Connie) Bree was able to project Joan Burnett’s portrait, using the laptop at the church.  
 The portrait is hanging on the back wall inside the sanctuary, near the nametags. Pam  
 asked if there would be room for a portrait light and also if the plaque about Joan that’s  
 outside the sanctuary could be moved inside and put under her picture. Amy said Gordy  
 did a phenomenal job framing the picture and asked Connie to relay the message that  
 everyone agreed.

B. Approval of June minutes. (Addendum attached.) The board approved these under the   
 discussion of the minutes, above.

VIII. Unfinished Business

A. Proposed NCUU Version of Robert’s Rules of Order. (Amy) Attached as addendum.  
 This was discussed under the Bylaw Committee’s report.

IX. New Business

Bree had to leave the meeting. John said Bree does a lot of work with the Citrus  
 United Basket. Since there is a $230 surplus of money collected for Joan Burnett’s  
 portrait, John proposed donating that money to the Citrus United Basket. Amy and  
 Connie seconded. Pam said there had been some thinking that there would be a   
 dedication ceremony of the portrait when the church re-opened. She suggested  
 maybe some of the money could be used for a party. John said the party money  
 also could come from the Social Activity Committee’s budget. Rob said we also  
 always could collect more money. The board unanimously approved donating the  
 $230 to Citrus United Basket. Amy asked that when the check is sent, if a note could   
 be included that the check is in memory of Joan Burnett.

John asked if anyone objected to the board not meeting in January. The board agreed   
 that if John Burnwood, who may be interested in converting the window into a door,  
 delivers an estimate between now and the next board meeting, the board and/or at   
 least the Executive Committee could meet to discuss the bid.

Connie proposed sending holiday cards to those members who don’t Zoom. The   
 board agreed that would be a good idea. The next board meeting will be Monday,  
 Feb. 8, 2021, at 10:30 a.m.