

NATURE COAST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

MINUTES
Dec. 13, 2021

Attendees:

In Person: Bree Hill

Zoom: Connie Hart, Amy Haiken, John Comer, Margo Wilson, John Ivens, Shirley Leonard,
Lowell Smith, Don Wright

Visitors Via Zoom: Jean McCauley, Gordon Hart

I. NCUU Covenant. Connie opened the meeting because John wasn't available at first. The covenant wasn't immediately available either.

II. Approval of the Minutes of the Nov. 8, 2021, Board Meeting (Attached.)

Shirley moved to accept the minutes. John Ivens seconded. Connie said Kurtland Davies' name was misspelled. She said she also found an "and" that should be something else. Shirley moved to accept the minutes. John Ivens seconded. The minutes were approved.

III. Treasurer's Report. (Attached.)

Connie asked if it was correct that NCUU received just \$20 for Share the Plate for the November group, Friends of the Crystal River State Parks. Jean said that is correct. Several of the board members said they sent in checks but just wrote "Share the Plate," not the specific charity, and that might be a problem.

Jean said NCUU paid for its property tax in the previous month, which really isn't property tax, but a charge for such things as fire and ambulance service. She said we're getting a little bit more money from our CD investments. Other than that, we had our usual bills. Amy moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and Lowell seconded. The motion passed.

IV. President's Report. John said the building finally has opened. He said Bree told him there were 32 people in person and 13 on Zoom at the Dec. 12 service. John said for the first service since the pandemic closed the doors, the numbers look good and seem almost what they were pre-pandemic. He said the doors look good and the shade sails look good. The portrait of Joan Burnett looks good. He said after the first of the year, the fellowship might start small and explore a few social activities outdoors.

V. Standing Committees

A. Building Committee. John and Connie said the doors are to be painted. Connie said Lowell has volunteered to co-chair the committee. Connie said Gordon has bought a doorstep. Bree said 54 seats have been set up in the sanctuary. The chairs are stored all over the building. Bree said she sprayed the chairs with disinfectant after the service. She said Sally told her that at the Citrus County Community Church, the

church has a spray regimen after a group uses it. Bree said we probably should, too. Bree said she didn't know what committee would handle this issue. She said she had bought several cans of spray disinfectant and will send her bill to Jean. However, Bree wondered which committee's budget the money should come from. Connie said she thought the money should come from the Building Committee. Bree asked if the chairs should be sprayed after every service. Connie said that sounded like a good idea.

B. Bylaws Committee. No report.

C. Caring. Report attached. Connie said she will need someone to take over the Caring Committee because she has been spending too much time on church matters and it's consuming her. She said maybe she'll put a job description in an e-blast and talk to some people. She said chairing the committee really doesn't take that much time. But with everything else she's been doing, it's a lot. She will help out, but she doesn't want to be the head of the committee. Connie said she had received a note from Sally, and she wants to have a service for Lynn Carole Baker and Roger in the spring.

D. Council of Committees. The date of the next meeting is undetermined.

E. Denominational Affairs. Bree said at a cluster meeting attended by people from the UUs of Tampa, Clearwater, one of the congregations from St. Petersburg, Spirit of Life in Odessa, and a few others, she learned that Tampa and Clearwater are open. Spirit of Life still is closed. The St. Petersburg church was discussing the possibility of opening. So, NCUU is kind of in the middle in terms of reopening. Clearwater did open in the summer for a while but then had to close.

F. Finance Committee. No report submitted.

G. Grounds: No report submitted.

H. Long-Range Planning: No report submitted.

I. Media and Technology: Report attached. Amy said Gordon has suggested we get a better microphone. The estimated cost is \$200-\$250. There is enough money in the Media and Technology budget to cover the expense. Amy said she isn't billing the full amount that's budgeted for her as webmaster. Amy asked for approval to spend the money for a microphone. John said if the money is in the budget, the committee doesn't need board approval. Gordon read the report aloud and added he's donated a professional tripod to the fellowship.

J. Membership. No report submitted. Connie said Holly didn't submit a report, but the committee met. Members phoned a lot of other members and friends to tell them the church was opening. Holly found greeters for December. The committee also worked on getting enough Sunday service bulletins.

K. Religious Education. No report submitted.

L. Social Activities: John said he, Matthew, and Pam will get together after the holidays and schedule a rededication of the sanctuary event.

M. Social Justice: Don said the committee hadn't been active over the past month.

N. Sunday Service: Jean asked if the annual membership meeting will be the first Sunday in April. John said Pam had said it probably would be April 10, 2022. By consensus, John and the board agreed it would be April 10.

VI. Old Business. None.

VII. Unfinished Business.

A. The Eighth Principle. Jean said although Lynn Westmoreland spoke at the Nov. 28 Sunday service, Lynn's Internet kept going out. She's been asked to return and address the Eighth Principle again at an in-person session in April. Jean said Lynn's presentation was good, but people may have had trouble hearing it.

B. Connie said one thing that hasn't been addressed is singing. She said she saw people singing through their masks. At Ormond Beach, the congregation doesn't sing. Lowell said it should be safe if people keep their masks on and sing. He said he encourages singing. John said he thought the congregation could continue singing if everyone used masks. Don asked Lowell if N95 masks are more effective than standard surgical masks. Lowell said he thought N95 masks would be more efficient to avoid acquiring the virus. However, these masks might not be much better than surgical masks when exhaling.

Bree reported that the Internet went out for about 20 seconds during the meeting. Gordon said there's about a 20-second drop at 11:15 a.m. each morning and we should contact Brighthouse and ask them what they're doing.

VIII. New Business.

A. Share the Plate. John asked for suggestions for Share the Plate in January. Jean said there are no speakers in January representing organizations that might benefit from Share the Plate. Margo suggested the Spot Family Center in Crystal River, an organization that give gifts to over 700 families during the winter holidays, as well as emergency household items during the year to families in crisis. The board agreed to make the Spot Family Center the Share the Plate recipient in January. John said he wants CASA to be the recipient in February because a CASA speaker will be featured during that month at a Sunday service.

John said Margo has been putting the Sunday videos on Facebook. Amy

thanked Margo for the work in recording, editing, and posting the videos. Margo said as she looked around the Zoom squares, everyone she was looking at is going beyond the call of duty.

- B. John said other UUs have a book at the door that those who attend services sign. We should do that, too, and have people sign their name and phone number. That way, if someone develops COVID, we'll have a way to do contact tracing. Connie said the Membership book is the Membership Committee's responsibility. John said just any book will do. Connie said she'll contact Holly about the book.
- C. Connie said she'd like to follow up on a previous proposal by Amy and nominate Pam Ricker and the Sunday Service Committee for their service, especially during the pandemic. Amy proposed calling it a Joan Burnett Volunteer Appreciation Award or something along those lines. Lowell asked about the frequency of the award. Amy said she'd like feedback on her proposal first. Margo also proposed calling it a Joan Burnett Volunteer Appreciation Award. Then Connie proposed that name, as well. The board agreed that would be the award's name. Connie said either the Membership Committee or someone on the board should handle the award. Connie asked who on the board will be at the next Sunday service. John was among those who said he would be. John agreed to hand out the award and Connie would pinch-hit if necessary.

Lowell and John suggested the award be given quarterly. Lowell asked if someone could put together the presentation for the award in the next six days. Connie said since she proposed the idea, she guessed that would be her. She said that's the problem with suggesting things. That person is left holding the bag. She said she guessed she could do it. She said perhaps Margo could write it better. Margo said she could write the presentation if it were four times a year.

Amy said she was uncomfortable with the frequency because a lot of people have done a lot of work over the last year. John said quarterly would be the minimum. Bree suggested multiple people could be recognized quarterly. It wouldn't have to be just one. Lowell said his thought in limiting it to quarterly is to make it special. If the award were handed out monthly, would it fade out in two years or so?

Connie said there are a few committees and a few members who feel they are totally exhausted. She said giving the award monthly for a while and later, quarterly, might be a good idea and somewhat motivational. Margo said she agreed. Many people have done a lot to help us get through COVID. If COVID becomes just part of our daily lives, then maybe we can taper off the award later. John said we'll give the award once a month until we feel it should be tapered off, and then we'll give it out once a quarter. Amy asked if the board would like her to make an award. Several board members said that would be nice. Lowell said he's the service leader at the upcoming service. He wondered where in the service the award presentation would come. John said a good place might be after the announcements.

Jean said she's changed the script for the service leader slightly to accommodate the

hybrid service. She said it would be a good idea to announce at the beginning that people should mute their audio and video in they're on Zoom.

Connie said we received a thank you note from Kurtland and Gaia Davies, who spoke at the Dec. 12 service. Some people from their Ormond Beach congregation tuned into the service on Zoom and enjoyed it and liked what we did with the lighting and decorations. Shirley said the sanctuary looked beautiful. John agreed.

IX. Adjournment. John Ivens moved to adjourn. Margo and Connie seconded. The meeting adjourned.

The next NCUU Board Meeting is Jan. 10 at 10:30 a.m. on Zoom.

