

NATURE COAST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS, INC.
ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA
April 10, 2022

I. Sunday Service Leader Rob DeRemer read the Board of Directors' covenant.

II. It was determined a quorum was present.

III. President's Message.

Outgoing President John Comer thanked the congregation for the honor of being president. He said it's been a humbling experience. He said it's been a long couple of years, but we've finally reopened our doors. He asked people who aren't on a committee to join one. He thanked the Media and Technology Committee for making it possible for the fellowship to have a hybrid service during the pandemic. He also thanked the board members for helping steer the fellowship through the pandemic, despite not ever having experienced a time like this.

IV. Vice President's Message.

Vice President Connie Hart thanked the outgoing board members for working hard over the past two years. Connie called the outgoing board members to the podium: John Comer, who not only served as board president, but held a fulltime job and took care of his parents fulltime. Also, Bree Hill, who's served two terms on the board and fulfills many roles, and Amy Haiken, who's served a term on the board and continues to maintain the website and publish the monthly newsletter. Amy was attending by Zoom. Also, Don Wright, who replaced Pam Ricker on the board. Don is running for president, so he won't be able to serve as a board member, although he will attend the board as president, if elected.

IV. Approval of Minutes of 2021 Annual Meeting. It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the 2021 Annual Meeting be accepted. The motion passed.

V. A. Discussion of ballot of officers: Nominating Committee Chair Jeanne Wright read the names of those nominated for board positions: President – Don Wright; Board Members – Rob DeRemer, Mike Taylor, and Carole Goodwin. Those nominated For the Nominating Committee are: Jeanne Wright, Susan Smith, and Abbie Madeiros. The paper ballots are due to Jeanne by April 30, 2022. She said she's received many already. She also asked for additional nominations from the floor. There were none.

B. Discussion of proposed budget: Chair of the Finance Committee Shirley Leonard said the pledges fell a little short during 2021-2022. The congregation lost some members over the year. But overall, the pledges were generous, and the budget should fund the committees' and other work at about the same level as last year. She said inflation had to be taken into account more than before. She said the fellowship is doing well financially, considering what we've gone through.

Rob explained that this annual meeting is informational only. Members are

to mail in their ballots by April 30 to Jeanne Wright.

VI. Committee Reports

1. Building – Co-Chair Matt Ciszewski said during the past year, a window was removed and a door installed. Problems with the air conditioner, standing water, and a resulting smell were resolved. Matt also power-washed the building.
2. Bylaws – Rob said the Bylaws Committee had worked on updating the bylaws but hadn't finished by the time of the annual meeting.
3. Caring – Chair Connie Hart said the Caring Committee sends birthday cards to members, sends emails, makes phone calls, and visits those who are ill, and the committee then reports back to the congregation. During the pandemic, the committee reached out to those who didn't have access to a computer or were unable to use Zoom. She said she has chaired the committee a long time, and now Jeanne Wright is taking over as chair of the committee.
4. Council of Committees – Chair Connie Hart said the Council of Committees meets quarterly and is made up of all the committee chairs. The committee decides on the congregation's goals and how to achieve these goals. Each committee has a liaison to the board who reports on what the committee is doing and what it's accomplished. Last fall, the committee's goal was to reopen the sanctuary and help everyone who attends services to feel safe. The committee now is working to hold a celebration May 15 to honor Joan Burnett. Connie invited attendees to look at the portrait of Burnett that's hanging in the rear of the sanctuary. Amy Haiken and Mike Taylor also have made a plaque, hanging outside the sanctuary. Connie urged members to join a committee.
5. Denominational Affairs Chair Bree Hill said she's been active in trying to get a second NCUU delegate to attend the annual meeting of UUA. Bree attends a regional "cluster" meeting of UU congregations and said we were the first congregation to reopen after closing for the pandemic.
6. Finance – Chair Shirley Leonard covered what the Finance Committee had done during her discussion of the proposed budget.
7. Grounds Chair Bree Hill said a path had to be made after the new door was installed in the sanctuary. She said the first Friday of the month is when the grounds are worked on and invited people to join her.
8. Library Committee Chair Tom Hibberd said the committee will meet April 22 at 9 a.m. and hopes to get the library back in order. Sally Adams Smith said it's a lending library and the selections are excellent.
9. Long-Range Planning Chair Bob Madeiros said the group should be meeting soon and may be looking for new leadership. He said the group is looking forward to this new year.
10. Media and Technology Chair Gordon Hart said the committee has worked hard over the past year to get together the equipment needed for hybrid services. He listed the equipment purchased and said the Spectrum Internet service has been upgraded. He said Lowell Smith has filled in for him when he has been away. The committee needs more volunteers for this. Margo has placed ads in the Chronicle and records the Sunday service. Amy Haiken maintains the website and publishes the newsletter. The committee will continue to upgrade equipment and advertise in the future.

11. Membership -- Connie Hart, who was standing in for Chair Holly Alexander, said the committee is responsible for attracting new members, welcoming and keeping members, scheduling greeters for the Sunday services, planning new member services, and updating and keeping lists of members and friends. She said it was difficult attracting new members while the fellowship was closed. Since reopening, several new people have attended, as well as joined. People find out about us through the website, social media, the weekly ad in the Chronicle, and just by driving by. This emphasizes we must use various methods to get the word out.
12. Religious Education – Chair John Ivens said the committee doesn't have a lot to report but is hopeful that in the future, things will change and there will be more families with children, as well as more indoor space for religious education programs. In the immediate future, we can expect more religious education among ourselves, like what's coming up April 23 – a Kitchen Table Forum about Ukraine on Zoom. More Kitchen Table Forums will be coming up. The Social Justice Committee heads the Kitchen Table Forums.
13. Social Activities Co-Chair Pam Ricker said the committee has been on hold for quite some time. On April 17, the committee is planning a potluck, the first since the pandemic. The fellowship will provide ham and turkey, and the congregation will supply the side dishes. Efforts are being made to keep people safe. The committee hopes to become more active. Pam said she remembers all the good times she's had with the fellowship, and we'll have more good times.
14. Social Justice – Chair Don Wright said the committee has met several times during the pandemic and has a page on the NCUU website that explains, in more detail, what the committee does. He said the committee addresses about 15 different social issues, including Black Lives Matter, climate, and LGBTQ issues.

The committee is resurrecting its Kitchen Table Forum series, for which pre-pandemic, people would meet at the church on an afternoon or evening to discuss an issue in depth. On April 23 at 3 p.m. there will be a Kitchen Table Forum on Zoom on the background of Ukraine and what we can do to help it. John Ivens will lead the discussion. He is a member of Veterans for Peace and has studied about Ukraine through this group for several years. Those interested in participating in the forum should email Don for the Zoom link. An article about the event was published in the Chronicle. Don invited members to attend upcoming forums, as well. Linda Myers pointed out that the Share the Plate for April is UUA's Social Justice Committee, which, on the UUA website, lists special, Ukraine-oriented funds to which members can donate.

15. Sunday Service Chair Pam Ricker said the committee has met throughout the pandemic on Zoom. Sally Smith Adams has suspended the choir until it's safe to resume singing. Sally is the pianist and Connie plays when Sally can't. Pam complimented both on their musicianship. Sally schedules service leaders for the committee. Jean's responsibility is to send speaker agreements to the scheduled speakers and to the Sunday service leaders. She also modifies the language of the speaker agreements. Linda helps find many and diverse speakers and helps key them to social justice issues and calendar events, like Black History Month, Women's History Month, and Gay Pride Month. Pam also schedules speakers. Pam said the Media and Technology Committee has made it possible to schedule speakers from

around the country. Pam also sends a committee report to the board once a month. Lowell Smith serves as the committee's liaison to the board. He gave a talk in October about his former career as an oncologist. He also serves as a service leader. Pam also thanked Sunday service leaders Amy Haiken, Carole Goodwin, Connie Hart, Don Wright, Holly Alexander, Jean McCauley, John Comer, John Ivens, Linda Myers, Lowell Smith, Margo Wilson, Mike Taylor, Pam Ricker, Rob DeRemer, and Wanda Brown. Pam thanked Bree Hill for posting every Sunday the order of service on the board in the front of the sanctuary.

VI. Unfinished Business – John Comer thanked everyone who contributed monetarily or by donating time. To a question from the floor about Share the Plate donations, Rob explained the board chooses a charity each month to which members can make a special contribution. The charity is announced in the newsletter. Members submitting checks can specify, in the memo line, that the contribution is for Share the Plate. John explained members also can donate to special budget items if they so designate. Rob thanked Gordon and Connie for putting up the patio sails.

VII. Adjournment – Rob declared the meeting adjourned.