

NATURE COAST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

July 11, 2022

Attendees:

Zoom: Connie Hart, Shirley Leonard, Don Wright, Rob DeRemer, John Ivens, Lowell Smith,
Mike Taylor, Carole Goodwin, Margo Wilson

Visitors Via Zoom: Bree Hill, Jean McCauley, Linda Myers, Gordon Hart, Pam Ricker, John
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I. NCUU Covenant. Don read the covenant.

II. Additions to Agenda. None.

III. Comments from the Public.
None.

IV. Clerk's Report.

Margo requested that items for the board meeting be sent to her the week before the board meeting, after she requests that agenda items and committee reports be sent to her. If someone sends her material nearly a month before the next meeting, there's a chance it will be overlooked. She also requested that the material be consolidated. If a person has more than one item to add, it would be helpful if it all were sent at once. Finally, the best place to send the material is to the clerk's email: clerkatncuu@gmail.com or to Margo's personal email: margokwilson@yahoo.com. Material sent to Margo's personal Gmail account goes unread. She also DOES NOT have access to contactncuu@gmail.com. DO NOT send material for the board/the clerk/Margo to that email address.

Approval of the Minutes of the June 2, 2022, Electronic Vote on Whether to Join With the Citrus County B'hai's to support Racial Unity Day. Shirley moved and Connie seconded the minutes be approved. The motion passed.

Approval of the Minutes of the June 13, 2022, Board Meeting. Shirley moved and Rob seconded that the minutes be approved. The motion passed.

Approval of the Minutes of the Emergency Meeting of the Executive Committee on June 21, 2022, about the wearing of masks. Don moved and Rob seconded approving the minutes. The motion passed.

V. Treasurer's Report. According to the BVR and Jean, the prepaid pledge amount for May was corrected by \$126 because of a contribution that mistakenly was counted for April, not May. Shirley moved and Margo seconded that the Treasurer's Report be approved. The motion passed.

VI. President's Report.

Don said NCUU has received a first check for \$50,000 from Mary Louise DeWolf's estate. A letter attached to the agenda shows that the estimated amount that NCUU is

to receive is \$225,000. The money is to be used for “establishing a Ministry.” Don and others said DeWolf’s attorney and her nephew have been contacted for a more precise definition of “ministry.” It was suggested that UUA also be contacted for input on what “ministry” might entail and that this information might help inform the final definition of “ministry.” It was agreed the congregation would be informed about DeWolf’s gift in September, after a more precise definition is available.

The board voted unanimously in favor of supporting the Safety Subcommittee’s recommendation that masking continue in the sanctuary and be optional on the patio.

The board also supported the Safety Subcommittee’s recommendations to deter active shooters and have emergency plans for fire, health, and weather issues. First responders would be assigned to activate an alarm or call 9/11 in case of an accident or emergency. Members with CPR and AED training would be identified and asked to respond if needed. The congregation would be briefed on emergency procedures at least twice a year and would practice evacuation drills.

After a long discussion, the board authorized the Subcommittee/Don to proceed with an ADT plan for video monitors, an alarm system, smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, and fire extinguishers. Jean and Shirley stated there are reserve funds to pay for the system. The funds won’t come from Mary Louise DeWolf’s bequest.

VII. Vice President’s Report. Connie included a report on her attendance at the General Assembly of UUA and what she saw as the main points.

VIII. Standing Committees

- A. Building Committee.** Report submitted. Lowell discussed various items, including a new door closure. He recommended that the building temperature be at 82 degrees when the church is not being used. He said he and Matt will monitor air filters. It was decided the air conditioning should be serviced on a yearly basis.
- B. Bylaws Committee.** No chair and no report.
- C. Caring.** Connie said Kurtland Davies, one of our speakers, is to get chemotherapy. Holly continues to recuperate in Arkansas and enjoys texts and emails.
- D. Council of Committees.** No report submitted. The committee, which meets quarterly, hasn’t met since the last board meeting.
- E. Denominational Affairs.** Bree said she’d be the speaker at the Sunday Service on July 17 and would discuss the General Assembly meeting of UUA.
- F. Finance Committee.** Shirley said the committee mostly discussed the bequest from the estate of Mary Louise DeWolf. She suggested the congregation be informed of Mary Louise DeWolf’s bequest after receiving a definition of “Ministry” from the

estate attorney and input from UUA. The Finance Committee report says the electric bill was up to \$207 in June from May's \$173. This is related to the unusually hot weather and a fuel adjustment charge.

G. Grounds: No report submitted.

H. Long-Range Planning: No report submitted.

I. Media and Technology: Report submitted. The report shows the Media and Technology Committee supports a mask mandate in the sanctuary and a policy against putting a direct link to Sunday Services on Facebook.

J. Membership. Connie said the committee hasn't met recently, in part because Holly has been sidelined. Rob said he'd be a greeter through July. Seven visitors attended the July 10 Sunday Service. Some attended because of ties to the speaker, but not all.

K. Religious Education. No report submitted.

L. Social Activities: No report submitted. Pam said it's difficult to plan activities under the current conditions, which include some members avoiding activities because of COVID.

M. Social Justice: Report submitted. Linda asked the board to approve a letter, already endorsed by the Social Justice Committee, of the Florida Interfaith Coalition for Reproductive Health and Justice. The letter supports safe and legal abortions and other reproductive health care services. The board agreed Don should sign the letter. Also, see discussion about Eighth Principle below.

N. Sunday Service: Report submitted. Pam said the committee was totally surprised by the way speaker Arbuth Bumgarner had failed to uphold his speaker's agreement and how he had spoken in ways that don't support UU's Seven Principles. He will not be asked back.

IX. Old Business. None.

X. Unfinished Business.

A. The Eighth Principle. The board responded to a request by John Ivens to set a date in Fall 2022 for the congregation to vote on the Eighth Principle. The board agreed the voting should be in November, before Thanksgiving, and by paper ballot. A Kitchen Table Forum will precede the vote.

B. Share the Plate for August. The board agreed to recommend that Athena's Wildlife Sanctuary in Brooksville be the Share the Plate charity for August.

C. Question About Putting ZOOM link for Sunday Service on Facebook. The Media

and Technology Committee recommended that NO ZOOM link be put on NCUU's Facebook page that would allow people direct access to the Sunday Services. The board agreed. Those seeking the link can contact the church through our email.

- D. Informal Meeting with Citrus County B'Hai's.** The board agreed it would be OK to set up an informal meeting in September with the Citrus County B'Hai's to explore if there are ways we could work together on community service projects.

XI. New Business.

- A. Low Attendance for Sunday Services.** Pam said she is concerned the same 10-12 people are attending Sunday Services. She said NCUU used to be a vital spot for people to meet. Bree said about the same number of people are on ZOOM each week and usually have a good discussion among themselves before the service starts. Bree said COVID has changed things and we need to accept that.
- B. Action/Policy About How to Respond to an Offensive Sunday Speaker.** Don, John Ivens, and Margo agreed to form an ad hoc committee to explore a policy and/or addition to the Sunday Speaker's Agreement about how NCUU should respond if a speaker violates the agreement and speaks against NCUU principles.

XII. Adjournment. John Ivens moved and Margo seconded to adjourn. The board agreed to adjourn.

The next board meeting will be Sept. 13 at 10:30 a.m. on ZOOM.

