

**Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley**  
**Congregational Meeting**  
**May 18, 2014**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order and Determination of the Presence of a Quorum**

President Jean Gleason called the meeting to order at 11:28 a.m., asked for a headcount and announced that 81 members were present, sufficient for a quorum.

**Adoption of the Agenda**

President Gleason asked for a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was made by Linda Zittel, seconded by Judy Sam, and passed.

**Reading the Covenant of Right Relations**

Ladie Malek and Virginia Silver-Rimbach read the covenant to the congregation.

**Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Congregational Meeting**

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2014 Congregational Meeting was made by Diana Smith, seconded by Elizabeth Hutchins, and passed.

**Presentation of the Schweitzer Awards**

President Gleason introduced the winners of these awards, which are given to members who have been of exceptional service to the congregation, along with the members making the individual presentations:

Abbot Foote, presented by Linda Laskowski

Craig Scott, presented by Natalie DaSilva

She also introduced Jo Maxon who, with her late husband Karl Ruppenthal, have had their names added to the plaque at the rear of the sanctuary in thanks for all they have done for the Church. There was a standing ovation for them.

**President's Report**

Jean Gleason reviewed some of the year's accomplishments, including the ordination of Marcus Liefert, various CCISCO events, and the acquisition of the auto-defibrillator, and described the cooperative efforts of the Board and the Coordinating Team to develop operating definitions, which can then be used to develop a strategic plan to implement the recently adopted Ends policies. She concluded by announcing that the interim minister would be the Reverend Greg Ward and inviting members to check out his website.

## **Coordinating Team Reports**

Beth Pollard named the members who had served on the Team over the past year and thanked Bill Hamilton-Holway for his contribution to their work. She then introduced the members reporting on the following activities:

Lonnie Moseley and Paul Hudson gave a detailed report on the activities of the Membership Ministry Team. The Church has 426 members, and though there has been a net loss of five to ten members per year recently, they are addressing that trend with a number of outreach initiatives.

John Cahoon gave an update on the Capital Campaign projects, the first of which will be rebuilding the patio to eliminate dangerous tripping hazards and make it more appealing to potential renters.

Susan Lankford gave an extensive report on the Land Use Committee's work, calling on Suzanne Brown from the consultant firm, as well as Dave Roberts, to detail the process. The whole team responded to questions from the congregation and presented the following motion which was seconded by Jo Maxon: *That the Board of UUCB be permitted to borrow from the Endowment up to \$100,000 subject to the repayment terms recommended by the Endowment Committee and presented to the Congregation at the May 2014 congregational meeting. These loans will be used to conduct further studies of the underlying conditions and determine the costs of obtaining entitlements, improvements and permitting for possible land and building development.* Ballots were distributed and the motion was adopted by a vote of 80 to 14.

Anne Greenwood, reporting for the Stewardship Committee, invited the co-ministers to come up to the chancel and placed paper crowns on their heads and gave them a heart shaped stone in thanks for their being such a great example of generosity. She reported the pledges so far received and ended with the following quotation from Mary Allen Walden: This Church is a community of ourselves...Its wealth is what we share.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Linda Laskowski introduced the members of the Financial Council and made a motion to adopt the 2114-2015 budget as proposed. The motion was seconded by Bruce Hamilton and passed.

## **Endorsement of the Nominating Committee**

Kay Fairwell moved to approve the new members of the Nominating Committee: Christina Creveling, Judy Sam, Ira Nelken and Lonnie Moseley (alternate). The motion was seconded by Bob Sayre and passed. Jean Gleason noted that the continuing members would be Abbot Foote, Lynne Cahoon and Selene Fabiano, but not Ellen Fisher who has joined the Coordinating Team. She also thanked the outgoing members for their service: David Rockhold, Kathy Guarneri and Maryann Simpson, as well as Monica Riley whom she remembered with affection.

**Emeritus Status**

Patrick Cullinane made the motion recommended by the Board, that the members of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley award Emeritus and Emerita status to the Reverends Bill and Barbara Hamilton-Holway. The motion was seconded by Lynne Cahoon and passed.

**Adjournment**

President Gleason ended the meeting by quoting John Buehrens, "Blessed are those ...who do the work...and stay to the end," and declared the meeting adjourned at 2:06 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane Lundin, secretary