

Minutes of the January 12, 2014 Congregational Meeting

Chalice Lighting Rev. Beth Johnson

Welcome & Call the Meeting to Order President, David Cochran

The meeting was called to order at 12:34 p.m.

Call for Quorum President, David Cochran

David announced a quorum was present.

Appoint the Parliamentarian President, David Cochran

Daniel Stracka was appointed parliamentarian.

Review the agenda President, David Cochran

Treasurer's Report Finance Director, Tim Peirce

Tim reported we are in good financial condition at the midpoint of our fiscal year with overall expenses at 94% of the amount projected and income at 99% of the amount project.

President's Message President, David Cochran

David thanked Tim Pierce and John Schwestka who took charge of investing our funds in companies which operate in accordance with our values. David also announced that the fellowship continues to be a beacon of light in North County. Membership has risen from 167 to 184 since he took office, and our primary tenant, the preschool, is considering expanding. David recognized Al Cox for his work with buildings and grounds, and Carolyn Celia and Kimberly Lilley for our outstanding music program. He also pointed out that the Interfaith Center for Worker Justice honored Rev. Beth and other UU ministers for their work in the worker justice arena.

Committee on Ministry Bylaw Change

David introduced the subject of the Committee on Ministry by explaining that the committee had been suspended for a period of evaluation by a task force, which has now presented a proposed change in the bylaws governing that group. A side-by-side comparison of the old bylaws and the new was given to each member present.

Misty Kirkman proffered a motion as follows: "On the recommendation of the Committee on Ministry task force, I move that Article 7, Section 8 of the by-laws be changed to increase the terms of Committee on Ministry members to three-year terms; and Committee on Ministry

members shall be elected by the congregation at the annual meeting from names provided to Nominating Committee by the President Elect.”

The motion was seconded and discussion ensued, during which a number of concerns were expressed.

Three amendments to the amended bylaws were approved prior to voting on the amendment as a whole:

- By a vote of 51 yeas, 2 nos, 0 abstentions, the first sentence was changed from:
 - *The Committee on Ministry consists of four members elected by the congregation from a slate presented by the Nominating Committee, with potential candidate names provided by the President Elect after consultation with the Executive Board, Minister, Council of Committees, Activities, and Teams, and current Committee on Ministry.*
- To:
 - *The Committee on Ministry consists of four members elected by the congregation from a slate presented by the Nominating Committee.*
- By a vote of 54 yeas, 0 nos, 0 abstentions, point 1 in sentence 9 was changed from:
 - *helping members understand the congregation’s mission and covenant;*
- To:
 - *supporting members in living the congregation’s mission and covenant;*
- By a vote of 58 yeas, 2 nos, 2 abstentions, point 3 in sentence 9 was changed from:
 - *consulting with professional clergy and other staff, the executive board , task forces, teams and committees and sharing the Committee's impressions of the effectiveness of ministry to the congregation.*
- To:
 - *consulting with professional clergy and other staff, the executive board , task forces, teams, committees and members of the congregation and sharing the Committee's impressions of the effectiveness of ministry to the congregation.*

The above amendments having been approved, the proposed bylaw change was approved by a vote of 58 yeas, 0 nos, and 2 abstentions.

Advancing Consideration of a Change to the First Principle at the 2014 UUA General Assembly Agenda

Rev. Beth introduced a proposal to support the First Principle Project in seeking to advance a change to the UUA Bylaw, Article II Principles and Purposes, Section c-2.1 Principles, Line 12. Advancing an item to the agenda of the General Assembly requires a vote of no less than fifteen congregations within the UUA.

The motion is: “Palomar Unitarian Universalist Fellowship votes to advance to the 2014 UUA General Assembly Agenda the following change to Article II Principles and Purposes, Section c-2.1 Principles, Line 12, UUA bylaws:

To omit “every person” and replace it with “every being.”

During the discussion, concerns were expressed regarding the broad meaning of “every being.” Rev. Beth and others explained that a vote on the current motion would simply allow the UUA to advance the matter to the agenda and that the concerns being addressed here would be thoroughly considered by the UUA over a period of time before being voted upon.

By a vote of 36-15, the proposal to support advancing the issue to the GA agenda was approved.

Chalice Extinguished

Meeting Adjourned

David Cochran

The meeting was adjourned at 2:12 p.m.