

Minutes – Thursday, January 19, 2012

Live Oak Board of Trustees Meeting

David & Lisa Fry's apartment

Board Members Present: Lisa Fry, Peter Hand, Darlene Pagano (by speaker phone), Jody Savage

Absent: Vicky Jensen

Guests Present: David Fry, Richard & Kris Arrington

Called to order at 7:05p.m. Jody read our opening words, we lit the chalice, greeted guests, and checked-in. Consent agenda (minutes of last meeting), approved.

Approve/Modify Agenda: Lisa moved we approve the agenda as presented. Jody seconded. Unanimous.

Financial: Our finances are healthy, we're saving money. Pledges are coming in strong. Spending is under-budget. Darlene and David plan to have next year's budget ready for final approval of the congregation by the end of April (a bit earlier than last year).

Stewardship: David said the Stewardship plan, to be fleshed out by the finance committee, is to publish materials, have testimonials, and end the campaign with a party for everyone (perhaps on March 17, with a St. Patrick's Day theme) where folks will be asked to complete and hand in their pledge cards.

Congregational Meeting Plans: All elements for the agenda were finalized. Peter will attach times for each item and send the file to Lisa for distribution first to the board, then the congregation. Agenda includes: Opening song (Kate); Elections (Peter); Stewardship (David); Board's every Sunday goal (Jody); Leadership retreat (Lisa); Listening campaign (Peter); Dyad exercise (Peter); Brainstorming session/growing into our new space (Darlene); District Assembly and General Assembly and why go (TBD); Closing song (Kate).

Listening Campaign: There are still some one-on-ones to complete. We will share what we have learned so far at the congregational meeting (Jan. 29) and more at the April 29 congregational meeting. In preparation for the January meeting, Lisa will send a doodle to all the "listeners" to meet one day this week.

New Trustee Orientation: We do not have a binder of materials for new trustees. Much of what would be in one is on our website. We recommend the following materials be reviewed by incoming board members: calendar, past minutes, bylaws, and budget. The Nominating Committee has already provided job descriptions for board members.

Calendar for Coming Year: Noting that our coming congregational meeting is on a 5th Sunday of the month, Darlene looked up other 5th Sundays and they do fall about quarterly, perfect for our meetings. We will select those dates for the next several congregational meetings.

Lisa suggested we put the Bill Moyers "On Faith & Reason," series on the calendar and get that going. Those events will be on 3rd Fridays of the month. We will offer New UU once each year (date to be selected). Peter asked that we put District Assembly (DA) and General Assembly (GA) on the calendar. He also recommended we see if we can make a Christmas Eve gathering a regular addition to our calendar. David suggested planning a date for the proposed multi-generational train trip to Sacramento and programming dates for Social Justice activities.

Every Sunday Programming: Jody proposed offering a multi-generational class on Religion & Science one Sunday a month. The curriculum was originally developed by Jody, Chris Celata, and Jay Marx for a class they taught at the Oakland church. Jody believes it can be adapted to a multi-gen program and Chris and Jay have given permission to use their material (we will credit them). They are interested in teaching one class themselves. Jody will have to line up some other scientists and someone to teach the religious components. The board was enthusiastic about this proposal. We recognize this will take some time to pull together.

Jody also mentioned Richard Stromer and Kim Rankin are talking about a worship program that might also be offered one Sunday a month, filling out the every Sunday programming. She will talk to them about their idea and what they need.

Christ Episcopal News: We currently are working with an interim agreement with CEC while their Vestry works with Rev. Kathy Crary on wording of the final contract. Lisa is keeping in touch with Kathy Crary, recently checking to see if we are doing a good job of cleaning up and taking care of the building. Kathy will respond shortly. Richard Arrington suggested some of us attend CEC's crab feed. Lisa will check to see if there are tickets available.

How Are the Board and Fellowship Doing? Excited about getting some publicity in Alameda media and seeing an increase in website visits following that; referring to a poem, Peter said our bamboo shoots seem about ready to take off; congregation sounds/feels busy and strong; like all the planning we worked on; looking forward to our new trustee joining us; very warm feelings about worshipping at Christ Episcopal.

Jody read our closing reading and the meeting was adjourned.

Action Items – for Board members and guests

- David will reserve space for a Stewardship party for March 17
- Peter will create the timed congregational meeting agenda for distribution and send it to Lisa
- Lisa will get the congregational meeting agenda out to all
- Lisa will set up a doodle for a meeting of listeners
- Peter will find the book he got at GA to loan to the new trustee
- Lisa will send all board members a governance sheet from PCD
- Lisa and David will look into our google calendar and update it
- Lisa will let folks know about the calendared items
- Jody will work on the Religion & Science program
- Lisa will check back with Kathy Crary, CEC, on how we are doing there
- Lisa will check on Crab Feed tickets.

Action Items – Continuing from previous meeting

- Lisa will look for retreat sites and aim for February dates
- Lisa and Peter will form a team for retreat-planning
- Peter will write a paragraph about Live Oak's backstory, to be inclusive with people once they are coming regularly (per advice from some new folks)
- Lisa will get brochures printed with our new address once the contract is finalized