

Unity of Santa Barbara  
**Annual Meeting Minutes**

March 5, 2017

1. MaryJo McGrath, Board President, called the meeting to order at 12:45 pm.
2. Rev. Larry Schellink gave the opening prayer.
3. A quorum was determined with 52 voting members present.
4. Agris Petersons moved to approve the revised agenda for today's meeting; seconded by Jim Knight. Motion carried.
5. Jeanne Schroeder moved to approve the revised minutes of the Annual Meeting on March 6, 2016; seconded by Chris Alderman. Motion carried.
6. **President's Report:** MaryJo discussed the importance of service. She reviewed the committees. She honored past Board presidents in the room, committee members in the room, volunteers in the room, and each of the current Board members. **Minister's Report:** Rev. Larry discussed the model of integral ministry, which the Board has embraced, and the importance of moving from receivership to ownership with our members. He looked at some of the programs, which have been introduced based on this model, such as Spirit Groups, as well as upcoming programs which will be developed, such as a welcoming ministry.
7. The Treasurer's Report was presented by Derek Carlson. He reviewed the profit and loss of the budget for the current fiscal year, 2016-2017 and presented the prosperity plan for the next fiscal year, 2017-2018. Jeanne Schroeder moved to approve the prosperity plan for 2017-2018; seconded by Bob Burke. The motion passed. Questions: Derek gave an update on the line of credit per a request. Q: Why is the bookstore cost more than its income? Answer: It fluctuates with classes. It is more of a service provider rather than revenue.
8. New Business:
  - a. Bylaws Revision: Russ Chaffin brought up a new committee to be noted, Unity Interfaith Pride Alliance. Russ presented a change in the By-Laws, reducing the number of seats on the Board of Trustees from 8 to 7. Question: Does the minister vote? Yes. Question: Why? Because 7 is the usual number at most Unity churches; an odd number is better for voting; it's easier to fill 7 seats and it's easier to do business on the Board. Bob

Vitamante moved to approve the Bylaws revision; seconded by Agris Petersons. The motion passed.

- b. Nominating Committee ~ Election of New Board Members
  - The qualifications of a Board Member were read. The Nominating Committee Recommendations were presented: Nola Force and Joanne Deck (member of Unity of SB for less than one year). Questions: Why are we bypassing the Bylaws, which state that a Board member has to be a member of Unity for at least one year? Answer: The candidate, Joanne Deck, was a member of Unity of Phoenix for five years; her membership can be transferred here; she served on the Unity Board of Light and Love Ministries; it is difficult to find candidates to fill the positions.
  - Kathleen Blake moved that we suspend the Bylaws qualification for this election, seconded by Bob Burke. The motion passed.
  - Chris Alderman moved that we approve the ballot of Nola Force and Joanne Deck as new Board members, seconded by Judy Pochini. The motion passed.
  - Nola Force and Joanne Deck were presented as our two new Board members.
9. Volunteers for congregational representatives for the 2017 Nominating Committee: Members are Russ Chaffin and Jim Knight, alternatives are Cheryl Bench and Bob Vitamante. Agris Petersons moved to accept the list, seconded by Bill Dutton. The motion passed.
10. Building Project Update: Jessica Risco Smith and Nola Force presented. The building permit was received on Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>. The revised scope of work for Phase One includes deferred maintenance and AC. Bids from two contractors will be received by March 17<sup>th</sup>. The committee will meet and present their decision to the Board for approval. There will be a community meeting on April 9<sup>th</sup> to discuss and approve next steps. The initial focus will be on relocating the administrative offices and setting up the youth classrooms. The Building Committee of Jessica, Nola, Rev. Larry, Derek Carlson, and Diane Doiron were honored for their time and efforts.
  - Questions: Where will the books be? In locked glass cases at the entrance to the Chapel.
  - Will the kitchen be in the same space? Yes, but expanded.
  - Is there space for the Board to meet? In the Chapel.
11. Youth and Family Program: Updated by Jennifer Somerville. There are 10 to 20 children each week. There are two teachers, one sub and 1 weekly volunteer. The annual fundraisers were successful to pay for teachers, supplies and kids camps. They look forward to moving into permanent classrooms. Testimonials were read. Russ Chaffin suggested introducing the substitute teacher to the congregation.

12. MaryJo and Rev. Larry said a few words about the future. A strategic planning specialist will be here in April. Planning and task teams will be developed. MaryJo and Rev. Larry were honored.

13. Rev. Larry gave the closing prayer.

14. Agris Petersons moved that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Bob Burke. The motion passed.

Minutes submitted by Amy Bacheller, Board Secretary