

East Shore Unitarian Church

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

June 8, 2008

11:00 am in the Church Sanctuary

Board President Brian Taliesin opened the meeting with a welcome, announcements and chalice lighting. Congregants received a handout containing an Agenda, with the slate of Officers and Nominating Committee members, the Minutes of the June 3, 2007 Annual Meeting, the 2006-07 Final Operating Budget, and the proposed 2008-09 Operating Budget.

I. Call to Order. Board President Brian Taliesin called the business meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

II. Establish Quorum. A quorum of 125 members was established (more than 10% of the membership of 693 required for vote).

III. Election of 2008-2009 Officers and Board of Trustees and Nominating Committee. Brian introduced Paul Fussell, chair of the Nominating Committee, who presented the slate of officers and trustees-at-large for the Board, and candidates for the Nominating Committee. All Motions to be presented to the Congregation for vote had been moved and seconded by the Board of Trustees, in a prior meeting.

The Nominating Committee's Board slate was as follows, with four candidates for Office, whose terms are one year, two candidates for 3-year Trustee-at-Large positions, one candidate for a 2-year Trustee-at-Large position filling Doris Bean's unexpired term, and one candidate for a 1-year Trustee-at-Large position filling Lyne Hannan's unexpired term:

Mary Anderson – *President*

Lyne Hannan – *Vice President*

Doris Bean – *Secretary*

Jim Dehmlow – *Treasurer*

Becky Davie – *Trustee-at-Large (3 year term)*

Ty Griffith – *Trustee-at-Large (3 year term)*

Cathy Perry – *Trustee-at-Large (1 yr term)*

Continuing their terms on our 10-member Board are Trustees-at-Large **Catherine Ramsey**, (2008 – 2010), **Andy Voss** (2007-2010) and **Eric Horner** (2006 – 2009).

The Nominating Committee slate consisted of Maxine Voetberg and Emily Winstrom, both for 2-year terms, with Lon Turner and Cynthia Welti continuing members and Brian Taliesin appointed by the Board to chair the Committee.

The following moved and seconded motion to the membership passed unanimously:

We the Membership accept the Nominating Committee's slate for the 2008-2009 Officers, the Board of Trustees and the Nominating Committee.

IV. Approval of the Minutes of the June 3, 2007 Congregational Meeting. Brian Taliesin presented the Minutes of the June 3, 2007 Congregational Meeting, and the following moved and seconded motion to the membership passed unanimously:

We the Membership approve the Minutes of the June 3, 2007 Congregational Annual Business Meeting.

V. Receipt of the Final 2006-07 Operating Statement. Treasurer David Lubinski presented the final closing statement from the 2006-07 Operating Fund, showing a surplus of approximately \$14,349.

VI. Adoption of the 2007-2008 Budget. David then presented the proposed 2007-2008 Operating Budget, with projected revenue of \$887,884, projected expenses of \$887,809 (including the Mortgage Payments), and a projected surplus of \$75.00. David explained that the operating pledge drive did not produce sufficient funds to cover both the desired raises for staff and the ability to contribute ESUC's fair share dues to the UUA. There isn't much flexibility in the budget, with staff related expenses constituting approximately 75% of the budget and the mortgage payments an additional 17%. After significant debate, the finance committee recommended that the fair share dues not be included in the budget, but that they be the first priority for payment in the event funds become available.

The following moved and seconded motion to the membership passed, with a couple of abstentions:

We the Membership adopt the fiscal year 2008-2009 Operating Budget.

Brian acknowledged the special contributions of Mary Anderson and Trish Hunter, who lead the Operating Budget Canvas for a second year.

VII. Children and Youth Ministry. Michelle Conklin presented an overview of the year and the activities of the reconstituted Standing Committee on Children and Youth Ministry, chaired by April Atwood.

Children and Youth Ministry include the following activities and programs:

- Sunday morning all ages RE program
- Sunday evening Youth Group, lead very successfully by Chris Conkling
- Engagement in the arts – the Purim Play and children's choir
- Family growth and support:
 1. family covenant circle
 2. home school co op

Michelle indicated that the major focus of the Standing Committee was to support and evaluate the new curriculum implemented this past year, classroom management and teacher training and support. The Committee had recently produced an online survey for parents, students and teachers and was in the process of compiling the results.

The goals for next year are:

- continue to develop the new curriculum
- grow the Middle School program
- focus on leadership development, with reducing the commitment of teachers and increasing their training
- adding social justice youth group and programming
- strengthen communication to the congregation

VIII. Visioning Summary

Doris Bean briefly presented the results to date of the visioning process centered around questions regarding the future of East Shore, in particular as it relates to potential growth. The process has identified certain areas of interest and focus for those participating:

- the need to involve people in small groups so that they can better make connections, even in the face of a large congregation
- expression of our spiritual identity: we need to understand and state who we are and why people would want to come
- leadership development
- paying attention to our institutional process and integrity
- foster sense of personal involvement and connection
- facilities: what will we need and when will we need it?

IX. Adjournment.

The resigning Board members were thanked and the new Board members were installed.

Brian adjourned the Meeting at 12:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Abbie Birmingham, Secretary
Board of Trustees