

**Amarillo Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**  
**Board of Directors – Minutes**  
**January 13, 2013**

Meeting called to order at 12:30pm by Ryan Webber.

Members present: Ryan Webber, Marilyn Van Petten, Nina Stein, BJ Oppermann, Kenny White, Eric Berg, Martin Sauer, Danny Dobervich, Cyndy Walton

Members Absent:

Committee Chairs Present: Nancy Stephens, Mary Kay Wells; Wendy Hearn

Guests: David Green

Minutes: Motion to accept with corrections by Eric Berg. Seconded by Marilyn Van Petten. Approved.

Treasurer's Report: The \$10,000 was transferred. Eric Berg spoke to Lucy Southern and requested that she set up specific accounts for designated funds so that we can track designated monies separately from general funds and pledges. She has agreed to do so.

Income for December 2012 was excellent. We have currently collected ~60% of our pledged/budgeted income for the program year.

"Summary of Giving" letters are in process of being prepared for 2012 and will be sent out by the end of the month.

Report accepted for filing

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee: Eric Berg reported that the Finance Committee recommends that our funds be transferred from Merrill Lynch to an Edward Jones broker "advisory account".

Motion: By Eric Berg that our reserve funds which are presently in an account with Merrill Lynch be moved to an Edward Jones "advisory solutions" account with a local broker in order to improve customer service and hopefully increase our investment income.

Discussion: who is currently authorized to manage the Merrill Lynch account?

Second by Nina Stein. Motion carried. Finance committee will research and carry out.

Communications: Report by Kenny White. Website has new look. There are instructional videos available for teaching members how to use the website effectively, with a goal that every committee chair can submit articles. He is continuing to prepare more instructional videos. Kenny requests that Board

Members take the tutorial discs home & review. He further requests that the videos be distributed to committee chairs & reviewed with them.

David Green requests a file with e-mail addresses for all members & friends so that people can be notified quickly when necessary (for illnesses or other events).

David Green also reported that some people have indicated that they would prefer to be able to donate through the website and others have indicated a preference for being able to “swipe” a debit or credit card when they come for a service or event.

We need to be able to accept electronic contributions.

Kenny White is requested to research the options for accepting contributions through the website. Ryan Webber is requested to research onsite methods of accepting electronic contributions. They will report at the next meeting.

Chairs: David Green reported that the manufacturer has indicated that our new chairs are completed and will be shipped, anticipated arrival date within the next two weeks.

Worship Committee: Report submitted by Minnie Venable. Services are planned through March except for March 10, when David will be out of town. They are looking for a speaker on immigration.

The worship committee will be setting up another meeting to plan services through May 2013.

Stewardship Committee: Report submitted by Claudia Stravato. A member of the Pledge Team will attend each Circle Dinner to explain the importance of pledging to our Fellowship. Postcards will go out on January 15<sup>th</sup>. Pledge letters will go out the last week of January. There will be a “stewardship moment” or reading at each service in February and David Green will give a sermon about stewardship during February. There will be a special “stewardship” speaker the last Sunday in February.

Caring Committee: Mary Kay Wells reports that due to several members having had serious extended illnesses, the budget for the committee has been exhausted.

Motion: by Eric Berg that the Board increase the budget of the Caring Committee by \$500.00 for the remainder of the 2012-2013 Program year. The increase to be used for the Committee’s designated purpose. Second by Marilyn Van Petten. Motion approved.

The Board expressed their appreciation to Mary Kay Wells and BJ Oppermann for the excellent job they and the rest of their committee are doing.

Building Committee: Martin Sauer reported the water fountain is almost completed. Vacuum has been replaced. We need a new WiFi modem, preferably an Apple Airport Extreme. The covers over the air vents in Chandler Hall, on the floor under the windows, are loose and present a trip & fall hazard. Kenny White offered to donate several hundred square feet of slate tile. Martin will research the possible use of this.

Old Business:

Path to Membership materials will be distributed to the congregation Jan 20 for comments.

New Business:

Eric Berg reported that the National Wildlife Federation has a program which provides consultants to assist faith based organizations in developing small wildlife habitats. He will obtain more information and present a report next meeting.

Nina Stein reported that she and Gary are planning to establish a Tiny Library near their home and suggested that we consider doing the same around the perimeter of our Fellowship property. This would involve mounting small waterproof "birdhouses" and filling them with books for anyone passing by to borrow or contribute to.

Nina Stein will also be traveling to Dallas later this month to continue her training as a UU Congregational Consultant.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:00pm. Next meeting February 10, 2013 at 12:30pm.