

MINUTES, 10-20-14
RRUU fall CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

President Jana Norris called the meeting to order. She asked for a moment of silence to acknowledge the loss of Carolyn Cameron and Don Rogers, both of whom died recently. As an opening reading, Jack Bolerjack recited a passage from Lewis Carroll: "Twas Brillig..." Jana lit the chalice.

David Dyer led the roll call and determined that there was a quorum. Requirement for a quorum was 16. Present were 22 members, either in person or by proxy. Marla Loturco submitted a proxy. Jim and Marsha Runnels have resigned from the church.

Minutes from the spring 2024 congregational meeting were presented on a screen. Elbert Hill moved acceptance of the minutes, Cristin Mackey seconded, and the motion carried.

Carole Harner gave the current treasurer's report, showing a loss for the current year of \$2,300 as of September. All amounts are rounded. Merrilee Kick, Marilyn Alexander's daughter, donated \$50,000 in July for kitchen remodeling. As of September 30, the church has \$13,000 in the checking account. Savings includes \$5,000 in the minister fund; \$6,000 held in trust for Kat Walston; and almost \$10,000 left for an emergency. The endowment fund has almost \$15,000, which isn't to be used until it reaches \$50,000. The UUA savings fund has \$68,000, but \$51,000 is restricted for use on a minister. In checking and savings, the church has about \$40,000 in available funds.

REPORTS were given from committees and about various aspects of church life:

1. Annual report. Jim Holmes presented.
2. Aesthetics. Adrian Hinman and Amy Hoffman-Shehan reported.
3. Audio/visual team. Another person is needed on the A/V team since Don's death.
4. Caring. Another person is needed on the Caring team since Carolyn Cameron's death.
5. Communications.
6. Community outreach. Amy reported. Jan Fletcher is the main individual doing this, and Earth Day Festival (in April) is the church's main community outreach effort.
7. Conversations and calories.
8. Emergency preparedness. Amy reported that the church needs to be prepared, following a fire-bombing incident at Community UU Church in Plano. Horizon UU Church has gone through steps to make their building more secure. There is a FEMA grant available that Red River will be applying for. It would fund up to \$150,000 for a church. She will write a grant request as soon as that application process opens up.

9. Building and grounds. The kitchen is being remodeled, and termites have been taken care of. A cover will be placed over the back steps.
10. Rainbow team.
11. Little free library.
12. Minister search team.
13. Movable Feast.
14. NTUUC (North Texas UU Congregations). Marilyn spoke, noting that a bunch of the congregations are celebrating anniversaries. RRUU's anniversary celebration will be in February. Marilyn also said that the NTUUC churches are giving classes in how to give an "elevator speech" when asked what Unitarian Universalism is about. Jana said RRUU will have an elevator-speech class.
15. Religious education. No report submitted.
16. Social justice.
17. Strategic Plan (long-range planning).
18. Website.
19. Web of Life monarch waystation.
20. Worship team.

PLANNING: Jana led a discussion about annual goals, with input from audience members.

MINISTER SEARCH: Jim reported on the status of the minister search. Two people applied through the UUA, but one had already found a job when RRUU checked with them. The other didn't work out for some reason. The search team has decided that the team should not have active board members. Jana and David have stepped down from the team, leaving two places open. Walter Norris and Liz Rapp volunteered for those places. The team is meeting once a month. It has been decided that a half-time minister would work better for RRUU than a full-time one. The money the church has available should last for four to six years with the right person.

MARKETING RRUU: Jim has talked with Daniel Polk, Executive Director of NTUUC, and he is interested in getting NTUUC involved. Jim and Marilyn will be meeting with people from First Church who work in marketing. The NTUUC connections may lead to something that can be brought to UUA, and will also help other NTUUC churches. Marilyn's daughter Merrilee Kick also has ideas about marketing. Jack spoke about the church's website, noting that it has "too much stuff" on it to be functional. The Rainbow team has its own Facebook page and is getting good response to it, but it takes more than one person to manage it. The church's current website team consists of Jim and Marla. Jim noted that they could use more writers of content and also need help with style and with Facebook. Regarding the spoken affirmation, Jana suggested taking "the" out of the last line. Open discussion followed.

Someone is needed to replace Don Rogers as board secretary. Two people were needed to join the caring team; Susie Norris and Paula Jennings have volunteered for those

places. Bruce Cameron will replace Carolyn Cameron on the Committee on Ministry. The Rainbow Team needs “people to show up” for their planned events: Friendsgiving on November 16, 2-4 pm, at the church, and for their Tea Party Holiday on December 14, 2-4 pm, at the church.

Following a closing reading and extinguishing the chalice by Marilyn Alexander, the meeting adjourned.