

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco
Board Meeting - Budget
April 21, 2009

Present

Jane Park, moderator
Matt Fuller, vice moderator
Thad Smith, treasurer
Ben Bear
Tara Hernandez
Carol Johnson
Mike McGirr
Stephen Schwichow
Don Williams
Sonnie Willis
Bill Wise
Claire Weber, secretary
Greg Stewart, Senior Minister
Nancy Evans, Executive Director
Peter Olandt, Ministerial Intern

Guests

Jasper Schad

Call to order. The meeting was called to order by Jane Park at 7 o'clock.

Opening. Matt read the board covenant.

Open mike. Jasper Schad addressed the board about his concerns about the future of the church related to budget issues. He considers it important that we not draw from savings except for special situations. He noted that the cost of living is expected to decline in the next year and the board should review proposed salary increases, although there were no increases last year. He emphasized the idea that we are a “big tent” and all demographics should feel welcome.

Budget draft review. Nancy and Greg explained the draft budget in some detail. Nancy noted this budget is based on some optimistic assumptions about the results of the current budget drive. She included in the draft whatever funds were requested by committees because the decisions about such requests should be made by the board.

The budget includes some expected declines in income. We know there is a loss in principal in various funds and accounts because of the market decline and Hinckley grants have been reduced from last year. So, regardless of new pledge income from the current annual budget drive, we do not start out financially even with last year. We start the fiscal year with less expected income than last year because of reduced amounts of grants, dividend and interest income.

Nancy detailed the proposed budget income breakdown. The draw from unrestricted is increased by \$30,000 over last year, to be used for special projects. The board discussed details of the budget income. Nancy explained in detail the budget's proposed expenses. She also distributed a printed Budget 2010 Personnel Detail information sheet. The board discussed the information sheet.

Greg explained the projects of the annual budget drive committee and the culture of generosity committee to achieve the goal of a 25% increase in member pledges. He explained that the budget drive would continue to be discussed in Sunday services. The budget drive committee is currently finalizing ways to make the pledge goal.

Motion by Stephen to accept budget as presented. Matt seconded the motion. The board discussed details of the proposed budget, particularly costs of the Beyond Sunday position and the ministerial intern. The board extensively discussed the likelihood, in bad economic times, of achieving a 25% pledge increase to move the church forward.

Motion by Matt to amend the main motion to revise the proposed budget to direct the staff to move the approximately \$40,000 shown in the budget as net ordinary income to fund a Beyond Sunday coordinator. Ben seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 11 in favor, 0 against and the moderator not voting.

The board continued discussion of the budget as amended, including discussion of the proposed personnel expenses for choir and forum. After all discussion concluded, the board voted on the motion to approve the proposed budget, as amended. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 11 in favor, 0 against and the moderator not voting.

Adjournment.

Jane adjourned the meeting at 9:30.