

## **WARRANT**

**JUNE 15, 2007**

### **SPECIAL PARISH MEETING**

To Jeffrey Roberts, a member of the First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, Massachusetts, greetings. You are hereby required, in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to notify and warn members of the First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, Massachusetts, who are qualified by law to vote on Parish affairs, to meet in said church at 630 Massachusetts Avenue on Friday, the 15<sup>th</sup> of June, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. to act on the following articles:

- I. To choose a moderator.
- II. To see if the parish will adopt a Resolution Concerning the Sale of the Parsonage:

#### **Resolution Concerning the Sale of the Parsonage**

Whereas, The parsonage, which will be vacant on July 1, 2007, represents a First Parish asset that must be managed in a fiscally responsible manner; and

Whereas, The parsonage in its current condition, having suffered from deferred maintenance and accumulated wear and tear, would require significant investment to prepare it for a minister's housing or rental and a substantial and ongoing annual financial commitment to properly maintain it; and

Whereas, Parsonages are no longer considered advantageous in attracting a minister since many ministers prefer the flexibility to choose their own residence, desire the opportunity to build equity through home ownership, and would expect extra compensation in the form of a housing equity allowance if required to live in a parsonage; and

Whereas, Rental of the parsonage is not fiscally prudent, because it would involve the same incumbent maintenance and repair costs and annual financial commitment as noted above, as well as increased risk and costs for property management and insurance, and would not generate sufficient income to offset the cost of minister housing, and further would revoke the church's capital gains tax exemption for a future sale; and

Whereas, Retaining the parsonage for other uses would represent an even greater financial burden since it would carry the same incumbent maintenance and repair financial commitments so noted, as well as the cost of sexton services, and produce no income, and, further, would carry the additional concerns of increased liability, safety issues, and parking limitations; and

Whereas, Selling the parsonage can be accomplished "as is," requiring no expenditures for repairs, and the invested net proceeds from the sale will produce a long-term income stream to offset the cost of a minister housing allowance while maintaining principal; and

Whereas, The original donor of the parsonage, Miss Virginia Wellington, set as a restriction of her gift on January 6, 1958, the following: "Should this church ever dispose of this property in the future, the net proceeds from such a sale shall be placed with the Trustees of Trust Funds of said church, to be known as the Agnes Whitman Damon Wellington Fund, the net income only to be used for the general expenses of the church" and those conditions were accepted by resolution of the congregation at a special meeting on February 9, 1958; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the congregation directs and empowers the officers and committees of the church, under the direction of the Parish Committee, to sell the parsonage; and

*Resolved*, That the congregation directs that the net proceeds of the sale be invested in accord with the donor's restriction, that is: the net proceeds "shall be placed with the Trustees of Trust Funds of said church, to be known as the Agnes Whitman Damon Wellington Fund, the net income only to be used for the general expenses of the church."

WITNESS OUR HANDS THIS TWENTIETH DAY OF MAY, 2007: Kiki Giatis (Chair), Dick King (Vice Chair), Jeff Roberts (Clerk), Tom Hogan (Treasurer), Diane Barry (Asst. Treasurer), Andrea Winslow, Marlene Hobel, Louise Strayhorn, Susan Moore, Gwen Hooper, David Deakin, Jim Benn

Pursuant to the above Warrant, I have notified the members of First Parish Unitarian Universalist church of Arlington, Massachusetts, who are qualified by law to vote on parish affairs, to meet at the time and place herein specified, for the purposes above mentioned.

May 20, 2007

By: Jeffrey Roberts,  
Parish Clerk