President Dave Helgager called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Board members present were Barry Zack, Don Slate, Chuck Smith, Baerbel Kavanaugh, and Sandra Zellick. Absent: Gale Midwood. Twenty-six members and one guest attended.

Minutes of the 2017 annual meeting were distributed. Motion to accept as printed made by Louis Altman, seconded by Baerbel Kavanaugh. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Budget Report was distributed by Chuck Smith. Discussion about the use of funds and the possibility of investing in interest-bearing accounts followed. The Board will discuss options at the next Board meeting. Motion to accept the budget as printed made by Noel Smith, seconded by John Beuchler. Motion carried.

Membership Report was made by Chuck Smith. We have 115 members which is a reduction of ten members. Discussion about how or if we want to market HUSBAY. Several members made suggestions about how to increase our membership, including a billboard, linking to other organizations' websites, brochures in libraries, and a newspaper column. No decision was made.

Dave Helgager thanked Chuck Smith for his work as treasurer and membership chair.

Scholarships: We have had success in finding deserving high school students through the UU Church in Sarasota. We have had difficulty locating deserving college students. We will seek Florida resident students through the Secular Student Alliance and we might have to extend our geographical range to include the greater Tampa Bay area.

Survey: Dave Helgager gave a report on the results of the survey that was sent to all members. Forty-six members responded. Of that group, results showed that the lectures, Wednesday lunches and film group were quite popular. For more details members can contact Dave Helgager.

Nominating Committee: In the absence of volunteers to fill expiring terms, all current officers and board members are to continue. Motion to accept current slate made by Louis Altman, seconded by Mary
Magill. Motion carried.

Facebook: Gale Midwood will administer the now-idle FB page. She is searching for the access information. Once it is operative we can link to other social media sites. For now our FB page will be for members only.

Thank yous: We recognize and thank Claudia Holmes and Garrett Cantrell for hosting our wine and snack table at monthly meetings. We thank Darwin Soder and his workers for our park and beach cleanups. We thank Mike Gruenfeld for organizing and leading the very popular Wednesday lunch programs. We thank Barry Zack for creating and maintaining the HUSBAY website. We thank Jacqui Kinney for organizing the film group. We thank Meigs Glidewell for organizing the writers' group program.

Barry Zack suggested changing the focus of Meigs Glidewell's Wednesday program in order to increase participation.

Annual Picnic: We will change the date of the annual picnic. Traffic across the Siesta Key bridge was very heavy and unpleasant and parking was scarce. Also there continues to be confusion about the exact location. Calling it Turtle Beach causes people to take the road to the beach and not find the pavilion. David Callahan suggested renting a grill that he would “man” to provide fresh grilled chicken, etc. Background music to accompany our lunch was suggested.

HUSBAY presented life membership to Noel Smith with a plaque honoring his founding and long-term service to the organization. Other life membership honorees who were unable to attend were Jacqui Kinney and Bud and Judi Klein.

Motion to adjourn made by David Callahan, seconded by Karen Koenig. Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.