

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia

Board of Trustees

FINAL Minutes of March 16, 2022 Meeting -- submitted by Secretary to Lis Turner with copy to Pat Mohr.

Attendance

Pat Mohr (President*)

Deb Matherly (President-Elect*)

Beth Ann Rocheleau (Secretary*)

Ginny Verne (Treasurer*)

Rod Brown (*Ex Officio* as Past President)

Linda Brennison (*Ex Officio* as Finance Chair)

Jonathan White, Emilio Perez-Jorge, Caroline Eastman, Jean Capalbo, Tiffany Rushton, (Trustees)

Rev. Stephen Robinson (Guest(s) -- continuously, briefly or intermittently)

Absent: none

*Executive Committee

Call to Order: Pat Mohr called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m.

Chalice Lighting: Rod Brown lit the virtual chalice

Covenant: Pat Mohr led the Board Covenant.

Additional Items for Agenda:

Motion to Approve Agenda: motioned, seconded, approved

Motion to Approve Prior Meeting Minutes: motioned, seconded, approved, ~~with three typographical errors corrected.~~ (It turns out there were none, but Secretary notes and strikes the reference for clarity going forward in case members recall this and explanation is necessary.)

Motion to Approve Consent Agenda with Treasurer, Financial Statement, DRE, and Committee Reports: motioned, seconded, approved

BUSINESS ADDRESSED BETWEEN MEETINGS

Between the February 2022 BOT meeting and the March 2022 BOT meeting the following occurred:

An Executive Committee meeting was held to discuss compliance with Labor and Tax laws. Because Personnel issues were discussed, and to protect the privacy of individuals, a memo dated February 22, 2022 records the details, was shared with the attendees, and will be kept by Secretary in our official records.

Guidelines for Re-opening were presented to the Board via email by Emilio Perez-Jorge on behalf of the Ad-hoc Committee to Address Pandemic Issues Affecting Our Community, and were accepted by vote.

The Pledge Request Cover Letter draft was presented to the Board via email by Linda Brennison on behalf of the Finance Committee, and after fruitful discussion was accepted.

OLD BUSINESS

Sunday Lock-Up Assignments

March 20: Ginny Verne
March 27: Linda Brennison
April 3: Jonathan White
April 10: Pat Mohr
April 17: Deb Matherly
April 24: Linda Brennison
May 1: Jean Capalbo
May 8: Emilio Perez-Jorge
May 15: Deb Matherly

Secretary reported these dates to Joan Watterson at the request of the Board on 3/16/2022 9:30 PM

NEW BUSINESS

Pledge Drive and Budget Update

Linda Brennison, Finance Committee Chair, provided an update to the Board. While it may not be predictive, it may be helpful to know that pledges received to date from 46 of 109 members totals \$111,405. Pledges are due for the fiscal year 2022/2023 between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023. Members who have not pledged are encouraged to submit their pledges. The pledge goal is \$220,000.

Memorial Garden

Rev. Robinson reported that the AIDS Memorial Garden has been relocated to a new site, with a bench generously provided by Bill Dolley. A rededication ceremony will be held April 3, 2022.

New Member Signing Service

Rev. Robinson reported that a service to welcome members new to our congregation this year and last will be held as part of an outdoor service celebrating the continued growth of our community to be held March 27, organized by Keitha Whitaker, and addressed in a three-part sermon by Jonathan White, Rebecca Drennan, and Jim Kimbler. Following the service Bill Dolley will lead a tour of the grounds and building that are our physical home.

Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) General Assembly (GA) 2022 Meeting

The 2022 General Assembly will be held in person (Portland, OR) and virtually June 22-26, 2022. We expect to send three voting delegates, though other (non-voting) members of UUCC are welcome (encouraged) to attend. Details about registration cost and deadlines can be found at [UUA.org/ga/registration](https://uua.org/ga/registration). Funds may be available to voting delegates to cover part of registration expenses. UUCC members who are interested in attending (in-person or virtually) should contact Bob Whitaker, Chair, Denominational Connections Committee.

The Board asks that the Chair of the Denominational Connections Committee work with the Committee to develop criteria to be used for selecting voting delegates – criteria such as the following, but neither limited to these or bound by these: UUCC member status and term; ability to devote time to attendance and engagement with the GA; prior service to the UUCC (committee and board and other work); past knowledge/experience with the GA or UUA, and other criteria as determined by the committee. The Board emphasized the desirability of development of objective (not subjective) criteria for selection of voting delegates, and also emphasized the expectation/requirement that selected voting delegates will provide to the congregation or the Board a report or summary of the event. The Committee is asked to record and retain the criteria developed, and to provide to the Board the list of candidates. The President agreed to communicate this request to Bob Whitaker, and to also provide language for posting in upcoming Unigrams unless Bob Whitaker is willing to also take on that task.

Zoom Services

Rev. Robinson agreed to communicate with the Worship Committee about a transition plan that may include asking regular attendees about their possible interest in hosting the meetings going forward with a dual aim—to ensure that members of our community to whom the Zoom services are important going forward are supported, and to ensure that members of our community who have been doing the Zoom work might also be supported.

The 8th Principle and Article II

Members of our community are encouraged to please educate themselves about these issues. It is important that Committee Chairs inform themselves, and it is important that all members of our community learn more, engage in dialogue with one another, and participate. The recent *Unigram* included important information about the issues. Additional information can be found here:

<https://www.8thprincipleuu.org/background>

<https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/committees/cic/widening>

<https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/committees/article-ii-study-commission>

The Board asked Deb Matherly to launch first steps toward development of a cross-functional Ad-Hoc committee to be charged with addressing communication/education/openness on these issues, and she generously accepted this role. We can each do our part by taking steps of our own to become informed, to become better informed, and to engage one another in dialogue about the issues.

For Next Meeting Agenda – for April and/or future meetings

-- Strategic Planning

-- Our Policy on Policies details steps to be taken when new policies are considered. We are considering modifications to the Policy on Policies that adds an opportunity for our Bookkeeper to be kept in the loop and to provide feedback, and also emphasizes the need to consider policy changes in light of labor, tax, and legal due diligence.

-- Consider reducing number of Board trustees.

-- Bob Whitaker, Chair, Denominational Connections Committee should be invited to update the Board by way of a committee report in advance of upcoming meetings in April, May and June about development of a rubric and possible candidates as related to the UUA General Assembly.

-- CYRE asked in March that the Board consider questions around the volunteer from Planned Parenthood regarding that person's proposed work with the Owl program.

Reminder

Budget: Executive Committee and Finance Committee meeting, April 13th

April Board of Trustees meeting: April 20

Annual Budget Review Meeting will be held on Friday, May 20, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. [NOTE: Changed to May 27]

Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held immediately following the Sunday service on May 22, 2022. [NOTE: Changed to May 29]

Chalice Lighter for April 20, 2022 meeting: Linda Brennison

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Draft Submitted by Beth Ann Rocheleau, Board Secretary, to Pat Mohr, President

March 18, 2022 at 4:50 p.m.

Final Submitted by Beth Ann Rocheleau, Board Secretary, to Lis Turner with copy to Pat Mohr, President

April 20, 2022 at 9:12 p.m.