

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia

MINUTES Board of Trustees Meeting, May 15, 2024 (approved June 24, 2024)

Attendance

Marc Drews (President*)

John Logue (President-Elect*)

Karen Brown (Secretary*)

Deb Matherly (Past President*)

Board Members: Nancie Shillington-Pérez, Susan Legacy, George Johnson, Rev. Stephen Robinson (Minister**Z), Ginny Verne (Finance Chair**)

Visitors: Tom Clements (Chair, Personnel Committee), Jim Kimbler, Michele CurrieZ (Bookkeeper), Pat Mohr

Absent: Jeanette Walton (Treasurer*), Regina Moody

*Executive Committee, **Ex Officio, ZZoom

Call to order

Marc (President) called the meeting to order at 2:32pm. The meeting was held in-person and Zoom.

Chalice lighting

Deb lit the chalice and shared a reading from the Talmud.

Covenant and check-in

We will treat each other as we would wish to be treated by listening to the opinions of all members with equal respect and responding in a kind and thoughtful manner.

APPROVALS

Accept the agenda

Nancie moved to accept the May 2024 agenda as amended. (seconded, carried)

Approve the minutes

Nancie moved to accept the April minutes as amended. (seconded, carried)

Accept the consent agenda

John moved to approve the May 2024 consent agenda (Recent Committee Reports, Revenues & Expenses Reports, Restricted Funds; Balance Sheets; Letters of Agreement). (seconded, carried)

The staff LOAs were removed, John moved to approve the LOAs to be effective as amended. (seconded, carried) Karen (Secretary) will email the board and the Personnel Committee Co-chairs these revised copies. Tom Clements clarified that the Board is in charge of negotiating and finalizing the minister's LOA, and that he, as Co-chair of the Personnel Committee, will follow up to ensure that staff LOAs are signed, as soon as possible. Tom thanked the board and the Personnel Committee for ensuring that the LOAs are brought up to date well before their July 1 start date.

Pat Mohr's address to the board

Pat Mohr addressed the board, speaking for herself, to express her concern about the proposed UUA rewrite of Article II's elimination of Western Enlightenment values in this statement. She hopes the board and congregation will greatly reduce the UUCC pledge annual contribution to communicate this message to the UUA Board of Trustees.

UPDATES

From the President

June 2nd Sunday Service – Marc reviewed the draft order of service with the board. Nancie asked what the theme would be, so she can connect to that in the Story for All Ages. Marc suggested it might be helpful to review the June 18, 2023 service entitled "Where Are We Going?" The children's story was, "Little Blue Truck." Marc will bring the three big rocks

which he used in the 2023 service. He also suggested that it might be effective to make connections to the accomplishments highlighted in the Children and Youth Religious Exploration (CYRE) montage video.

June Board Meeting Date and Time – Marc proposed three dates as possible dates for the joint board meeting of incoming and outgoing board members: June 17, 24, and 25. Marc will send out an email to find out the old and new board to find a good meeting time, and to find a date for the annual board retreat in August.

Treasurer’s Report

Jenny Verne (Finance Chair) reported on finances on behalf of Jeanette (Treasurer). She reported that expenses are about \$3500 over revenue for month-to-date, which is the pattern for this time of year. There is still an excess of \$44,000 for year-to-date, with a total of \$118K in a Money Market fund. Overall, finances are running smoothly, UUCB has ample financial flexibility, given the \$82,000 undesignated cash reserves.

Minister’s report (including staff update)

Rev. Robinson reported that staff are thankful that the LOAs are completed, and several have expressed that they feel well loved and supported by the congregation, and they are enjoying working together. Rev Stephen and staff have been focusing on improving communications. Staff meet twice a month, and Rev Stephen meets monthly with Anna, as well.

Highlights and Additions to Committee Reports

Denominational Connections Committee (DCC) – Deb reported that UUCB will be hosting the SCUUJA Fall Festival October 5, 2024. She will be asking people to help make that happen.

Leadership Development Committee (LDC) – Nancie (Chair) presented the LDC’s slate of nominations as shown in the list below. She recommended that Linda Brennon serve on the Leadership Development Committee for an additional year to ensure continuity. This will be decided next year.

Nancie reported that Bill Martin is willing to chair the Technology Services Committee. He does not want any compensation for managing technology during regularly scheduled services, so there may be no need to hire someone to provide technology services at this time. However, we will need to make arrangements to pay people to cover technology needs for special events and celebrations, and the board needs to discuss this further. A Use of Building policy is needed to coordinate these extra services, which Linda McLeod’s ad hoc rental committee is being asked to draft. Nancie reported that David Roof (Chair, Technology Services) had suggested perhaps \$75 an hour might be an appropriate amount to pay. Marc said he will put this on the agenda for June. Lis Turner is looking for someone to replace her as Webmaster. Joan Watterson will stay on to co-chair money counting with Jason Cobb. Nancie cited the Leadership 101 Workshop as being instrumental in bringing young people on board to help fill volunteer positions.

Elected Positions

Board	George Johnson	President Elect	2024-27
	Kate Heald	Secretary	2024-26
	Alma Engle	Trustee	2024-26
	Matt Donahue	Trustee	2024-26
	Robin Scherer	Trustee	2024-25 (filling in one year for George)
Endowment	Janae Walton		2024-27
	Melissa Engle		2024-27
Leadership Development			
	Linda Brennon		2024-25 (filling in for Matt Donahue)
	Janice Kline		2024-26

Appointed Positions

Personnel	Tiffany Rushton		2024-27
Kitchen	Melody Smit	Co-chair	2024-27
	Abigail Brandon	Co-chair	2024-27
Finance	Jim Kimbler		2024-27
Green	Sharon Givens	Chair	2024-27
Membership	Abigail Brandon	Co-Chair	2024-25

Technology Services	Bill Martin	Chair	2024-27
Money Counters	Jason Cobb	Co-Chair	2024 – undetermined (co-chair with Joan Watterson)

OLD BUSINESS

75th Anniversary Commemoration Ad Hoc Committee – George moved to approve the committee Regina would like to name for planning the 75th Anniversary Commemoration Celebration (seconded, approved). Karen moved to appoint Regina as Chair of this committee. (seconded, approved).

NEW BUSINESS

FY25 UUCB Budget

Ginny presented an overview of the budget which is intended to be a deficit budget for one year, so as to invest these funds into supporting the development of UUCB this year. The board discussed whether to fundraise for the deficit, or some part of the deficit, as a challenge. Ginny reminded us that we no longer have a standing fundraising committee. Marc stated that the budget will need to be voted up or down at the annual meeting, without amendment. There was discussion about the amount pledged to the UUA – whether the amount (\$6000) should be decreased to communicate displeasure with what has been going on at the national level, or whether UUCB should pay its “fair share.” Karen moved to accept the Finance Committee’s motion, with the UUA/Annual Program Fund allocation of \$6000 reduced to \$1000. There was no second, so the motion failed. The board then voted on the Finance Committee’s budget recommendation. (seconded, carried)

Annual Meeting Preparations

Marc will email Karen the updated Committee report document tomorrow. On Friday, Cyndi will send out notice of the annual meeting, along with supporting documents. The list of eligible voters, notice with agenda, and supporting documents will be posted on the bulletin board on Friday.

Leadership Develop Committee Nominations

The board unanimously voted to approve the LDC’s nominations, as listed earlier in these minutes.

Extinguish chalice and adjourn

Deb extinguished the chalice. The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 pm.

The information below is not part of the formal minutes.

Karen Brown (Secretary) emailed “draft1 to president” of minutes to the President on May 20, 2024.

Secretary submitted “draft2 to president” on May 22, 2024.

Secretary submitted “draft1 to board” of minutes to Board, Minister, Administrator, Bookkeeper, LDC, PCC, DCC, Jim Kimbler and Pat Mohr on May 26, 2024.

Secretary submitted “draft2 to board” to Board, Minister, Administrator, Bookkeeper, LDC, PCC, DCC Jim Kimbler and Pat Mohr on June 12, and draft3 on June 24.

Secretary submitted board-approved final copy to Board, Minister, Administrator, Webmaster, Bookkeeper, LDC, PCC, DCC, Jim Kimbler and Pat Mohr on June 28, 2024.