

UUC Board Meeting Minutes
Held in person at the UUC
(first time since March 2020)
June 10, 2021
Approved July 8, 2021

In attendance: Wayne Neu, Bob Stimson, Nancy Bodenhorn, Linda Powers (filling in for Meredith), Meredith Hundley, (via zoom), Mindy Quigley, David Hundley, Pam Phillips (ex-officio), Gene Gardner and Stephen Henninger (incoming Board members).

Not in attendance: Brandie Lemmon, Karen Hager

Chalice Lighting, Reading (Mindy)
Check-in

Review and Accept Agenda – Modifications: add another gift, quorum, and racial justice. Approved unanimously

Member Forum – none attended.

Approve Consent Agenda: – Approved unanimously

Minister's Report
Administrator's Report
DLFD's Report
Previous Meeting Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Old Business

- **Building closure discussion** (Confirm outdoor rules, Clarify indoor rules, Survey results)
Montgomery County data on cases and hospitalizations continue to be very low and decreasing. Board agreed by email vote between meetings that gatherings outside can be held with maximum of 25 people without masking or social distancing.
As of June 10, outside gatherings of any size are permitted at UUC. We strongly encourage non-vaccinated people to wear masks and/or social distance. Approved unanimously.
As of June 10, indoor gatherings of 25 or fewer are permitted in the building. People in the building are strongly encouraged to meet with masks and social distancing. Groups meeting in the building are encouraged to take time to listen deeply to one another's concerns and fears before making decisions about masks and distancing, even if everyone is vaccinated. Group singing is not allowed. Approved unanimously.
Survey results were distributed and discussed. One hundred and eight household responses, representing two hundred and thirty people, were received to the survey distributed to the congregation (members and friends) with questions about returning to in-person services. Results

were reported including that 84% are vaccinated, and 90% expect to be vaccinated within the next three months (includes the 84%).

Monthly decisions will continue to be made, and a summary of the survey results will be distributed to the congregation. The board will continue in our plan to have hybrid (both zoom and in person) services, which was supported in the survey feedback. Hybrid services are most likely to start in late August after all the technology and plans are in place.

- Public Witness request re pipeline

Bob Stimson will work with the initiator of the resolution (Clyde Marshall) to determine the process of getting a sense of the congregation.

New Business:

- **Modify FY2021 budget** – When finalizing the FY2021 budget, we had cut the minister’s sabbatical fund (\$2500) and the facilities maintenance escrow fund (\$6000). Because of the large FY2021 budget surplus we expect to realize, the board voted to reinstate those items to the FY2021 budget. -

approved unanimously

- **UUA Delegate** - Jamie McReynolds – approved unanimously

- **Approve two gifts** designated to Grounds and one designated for an Energy Check of our building - \$1000 and \$50 donations for the Grounds, and approximately \$800 for the Energy check were accepted with gratitude to the donors.

- **Annual Meeting debrief** – tabled to next meeting

- **Majority and quorum definitions in Bylaws** – tabled to next meeting

- **Racial justice co-sponsorship** – An interfaith racial justice group is sponsoring forums for the Roanoke and New River Valley. No cost is involved and co-sponsoring this event allows increased visibility and networking for the UUC.– approved unanimously

Upcoming:

Newsletter article (due 6/24) – Bob

Next Meeting Reading – Brandie

Next Board Meeting: July 8, 2021 at the UUC

Check-out (How’d we do?)

Adjourned at 9:05

UUC Board Meeting Agenda

Date: June 10, 2021

7:00 – 7:15

Chalice Lighting, Reading (Brandie)

Check-in

7:15 – 7:20

Review and Accept Agenda

7:20 – 7:30

Member Forum

7:30 – 7:45

Approve Consent Agenda:

Minister's Report

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7:45 – 8:00

Treasurer's Report

8:00 – 8:25

Old Business

- Building closure discussion (Confirm outdoor rules, Clarify indoor rules, Survey results)
- **Public Witness request re pipeline**

8:25 – 8:50

New Business:

- Modify FY2021 budget
- UUA Delegate - Jamie McReynolds
- Approve two gifts designated to Grounds
- Annual Meeting debrief

8:50 – 9:00

Upcoming:

Newsletter article (due 6/24) – Bob

Next Meeting Reading –

Next Board Meeting: July 8, 2021

Check-out (How'd we do?)

* Items in **bold** are to be reviewed before the meeting

Administrator's Report to the Board June 10, 2021

Annual Committee Reports: Received 14 committee reports which will be available on the Annual Meeting webpage shortly along with the highlight file. More reports may be coming in and will be added to the webpage.

UU Administrator Professional Days: I will be participating via Zoom on June 21-22 in 2 afternoons of education and community for administrators. The cost was \$25.

Pledge Reminders: Shortly, I'll be sending an email to all pledgers for 2020-21 reminding them that the fiscal year will be ending June 30 and to get remaining pledge payments in. As of now, we have \$24,397 in outstanding pledges. In looking at who still owes pledge money, much of this will hopefully be paid by the end of the month.

Updating Board Contacts with UUA: On or about July 1, I will update the UUA Data Services page with the names and contact info of new Board members (and remove those going off the Board). I'll also update our email lists for president, board and boardonly emails.

Committee Meetings: Attended Stewardship Committee meeting in the past month.

Vacation time: I will be on vacation July 6-24 but will have my computer with me and will be checking emails and sending announcements along with other routine work such as updating the website, etc. Since I'll be on Pacific time, announcements and such will most likely go out later than usual or maybe the next morning. I will ask someone to pick up the mail.

Attendance/Members: See the Google Doc. Note that the numbers reflect the number of computers logging in via Zoom and not the actual number of people.

June 2021 Minister's Report to the Board
Submitted by Rev. Pam Philips

Leads Worship and Officiates Rites of Passage

The monthly worship theme in May was Story, providing a good frame for Ellen Plummer's service exploring Unitarian Universalist history. We had our annual Bridging service, honoring four Coming of Age youth and two YRUU graduating seniors. Gratitude to all youth and adults who participated in the service, especially the COA facilitator Victoria Taylor and YRUU advisor Mark Benson, and return appearances of Mia Lazar and Jason Kern. The Memorial Day service included a video showing Arlington Cemetery markers with chalices and a powerful candle lighting ritual honoring those who have died. This past Sunday was the annual flower service—thanks to all those who sent photographs. We tried an in-person flower exchange the day before, but only six people attended.

This month's theme is Play, and the worship team suggested we actually play together. People are encouraged to come to the UUC grounds on June 20th from 4:00-6:00 to play. The last Sunday in June, we'll be joining Unitarian Universalists across the continent by attending the UUA General Assembly worship service.

Provides Pastoral Care and Presence

I'm continuing to meet with people on the grounds as well as on Zoom. I have attended two Sages meetings, setting up the big TV with a webcam and computer to facilitate both in person and virtual participation. We've begun planning for two in-person memorial services for later this summer.

Encourages Spiritual Development for Self and Others

The Sacred Language and Sacred Translation class has continued with great conversations and will end next week. I hope to offer it again in the future. I held the last Spiritual Aging meeting until next fall, and later this month I'll be finishing up the two Soul Matters small groups I've been facilitating this year.

The mid-week gatherings have gotten smaller and smaller (from as many as over a dozen to three people), so the Worship team will discuss whether we want to continue them through the summer.

Witnesses to Social Justice in the Public Square

The debate on whether we should adopt the 8th Principle was quite vigorous, in the informational meeting, in email exchanges, and on Facebook (in the UUC group). It was important to have the debate so that people could share their reasons for supporting or opposing the adoption openly. Now that it has been adopted, the Anti-Racism group will be discussing ways we can live into it. I encourage the board to use an anti-racist lens as we make decisions for the congregation.

Leads Administration

The safety committee will be meeting this Sunday to put tape on the floor in the sanctuary to help maintain physical distancing of chairs. This [article from the UUA](#) provides some context as we plan for more in-person activities.

Bob Stimson has been collecting bids for projectors and televisions for the Technology Committee, and we should be able to make a decision when we meet this Friday

The Strategic Planning Committee report has been completed (incorporating a suggestion from the board) and is [posted on the web page](#). Thanks to Stephen Henninger, Amy Pruden-Bagchi, Jim Kern, Kim Feucht, Frank Napolitano, and Polly Stimson for their work. The committee is discussing having a question-answer session with the congregation, probably after a Sunday service.

The stewardship committee is planning a celebratory gathering after an amazingly successful campaign. Andy Roberts plans to step down as chair of the committee, but he will stay on the committee to help out the new chair. A current member is considering stepping in as the new chair.

Serves the Larger Unitarian Universalist Faith

I attended the annual meeting for the UU Ministers Association and look forward to attending GA at the end of June. The Service of the Living Tradition, during which Karen Hager and I will be recognized for becoming a credentialed religious educator and receiving full fellowship, respectively. Members of UUC are invited for a reception that afternoon, and 25 people will be able to watch the service on the large television in Elarth.

Time away from Blacksburg

The week of June 21st-27th, I will be attending Ministry Days and General Assembly virtually.

I plan to take study leave for the month of July (which means I will be in Blacksburg and available in case of emergencies) and vacation (on the West Coast) from August 10th-24th.

DLFD Report to the Board – June 2021

Submitted by Karen Hager, Director of Lifespan Faith Development

Registration

To date, 54 families, representing 93 children and youth have registered. As expected, those with Nursery age children with no online program are not registering. The breakdown by class is:

- Nursery: 3
- PreK: 12
- K-5: 36
- Middle School: 20
- High school: 22

Children and Youth Programs

- Children's RE finished May 23 strongly, with good attendance throughout the year. Although attendance was not as high as in-person classes – and wasn't expected to be – attendance was excellent for online classes, and particularly so for the middle school class. Based on our reopening survey – which received many positive comments about this year's supply bags and classes – I believe we have achieved our goal of retaining most, if not all, of our families through this year of not being together.
- YRUU and Coming of Age bridged May 23 in a lovely service. Many thanks to Rev. Pam for pulling off another meaningful and beautiful bridging service for our youth!
- SUUmer AdventUUre JoUUrnals have been delivered to all children in grades PreK-5. The joUUrnal contains 15 themed ideas for adventUUres the children can complete at home, at UUC, or on vacation. When an adventUUre is completed, parents have been given sticker badges to place inside the joUUrnal. When a child completes 10 or more adventUUres, they scan a QR code, fill out a simple form and I will send them a coupon for a free ice cream cone at Sugar Magnolia. Our initial response to this summer program has been very positive. I have also shared the files with my counterparts across the country via the Facebook LREDA and UU Religious Educators groups so that others can use the idea if they like.
- A draft reopening plan for LFD is available at https://uuc-my.sharepoint.com/:w/g/personal/dlfd_uuc_onmicrosoft_com/EW2LsSRHAr5LjyQnVqABsLcBX7XFKmKylKI6eg99nJMb9w?e=nWDbI0. This plan will be posted for comment by parents and the congregation, and will be changed throughout the summer, as needed.
- Fall recruitment has begun and is proving to be more difficult this year, both because we are not in person together to communicate; and because much is still unknown about what the fall will look like. Many are reluctant to commit without knowing more information.
- I am opening fall registration early this year, asking parents to please register early to help us plan class sizes carefully. Knowing an approximate number of kids in each class will be crucial to having correct classroom sizes to accommodate distancing guidelines.

Adult Programs

- *The Fifth Dimension* for adults ended this month with our fifth episode, "The Old Man in the Cave", and a discussion on greed, power, and questioning one's faith in forces greater than oneself. This series was well-received, and I enjoyed the wonderful conversations that came from these episodes. Everyone agreed that it was amazing how relevant they still were 60 years later!
- Community Conversations and Sunday Circle will take a hiatus during the summer, and will resume in September.

June Plans

- I will be taking vacation from May 28-June 13.
- I will be attending LREDA Professional Days June 16-18.
- I will also be attending General Assembly June 23-27.