

UUC Board Meeting Minutes

June 11, 2022

(Approved 07/14/22)

In attendance: Bob Stimson, Nancy Bodenhorn, Wayne Neu (via zoom), Gene Gardner, and Brandie Lemmon and Rev. Pam Philips. Also incoming 21-22 Board members Fred Piercy, Rami Steinruck, and Laura Robinson. Not in attendance: Paul & Mindy Quigley and Stephen Henninger.

Chalice Lighting, Reading (Gene)

Check-in

Bob called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Gene shared a reading. The Board did their check-in.

Review and Accept Agenda - *Approved unanimously.*

Member Forum - *No members were present.*

Approve Consent Agenda

Minister's Report

Administrator's Report

DLFD's Report

Previous Meeting Minutes

Bob requested to add an item to amend May 2022 meeting minutes to New Business. The Board approved the remainder of the consent agenda unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Wayne indicated the budget approved at the Congregational Meeting will be conveyed to the bookkeeper along with any additional pledges and information as the 2021-22 fiscal year comes to a close.

Old Business

Covid policy decisions with current data

Policy & Procedure Review - update status and plans finalize editing of part I, bring new board members up to date on process, review current status and plans, and vote on latest changes as appropriate.

The Board addressed any changes needed to the current Covid policy. They considered a request by a congregant to possibly adjust some seating area to allow increased social distancing for those who might prefer that.

After a discussion on how to best accommodate those who would want to maintain a certain distance in all areas (including signs or a slide on the monitors or information by greeters), the decision was to have Rev. Pam add some additional wording to the opening of the service to encourage watchful consideration of individual preferences.

For the P&P Review, due to some “track changes” issues, Board members agreed to provide their latest edits to Wayne using a “marked up” paper copy. The review and updating process, including requesting input from individual committees and groups on specific sections, will continue in the months ahead.

New Business

Amend May minutes

Appoint Alyssa Short to one-year, At-Large Board member position starting July 1, 2022

[Update: Alyssa unable to start the position. Board will appoint a new person in July.]

Annual meeting review for future planning

“A look back for a better look forward”

Date for July meeting and annual Board retreat

Bob moved to amend the 5-12-22 Board meeting minutes to include an email vote on 5-18-22 to include a new \$5000 pledge in the proposed budget. Brandie seconded. Approved.

Bob moved to appoint Alyssa Short to a one-year, At-Large Board member position starting 7-1-22. Approved.

The Board discussed the operation of the 6-5-22 annual congregation meeting to identify lessons learned for future planning. The Board will ensure the creation of minutes (which by omission were not done) and also the approval of previous years’ minutes at annual meetings.

Bob reviewed some of the activities and accomplishments of the current Board and thanked the members and Rev. Pam.

2022-23 President Nancy Bodenhorn checked with continuing and new members and set the next meeting for Thursday, July 14 the annual Board retreat on Saturday, August 27.

Upcoming

Checkout: Did we abide by our Covenant?

Newsletter article for July, and reading for next meeting?

Nancy will write the article for the July newsletter. Fred Piercy will bring a reading to the July Board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

UUC Board Meeting Agenda
June 9, 2022
7:00pm Elarth Hall
(6:30 pizza, fruit salad, cookies, water or byod)
[Zoom Link](#)

7:00-7:15

Chalice Lighting, Reading (Gene)
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**
- **Administrator's Report**
- **DLFD's Report**
- **Previous Meeting Minutes**

7:45-8:00

Treasurer's Report

8:00-8:25

Old Business

- Covid policy decisions with current data
- Procedures and Policies review update & plans(get new board members up to speed with issues concerning P&P)
- **Review current recommendations for changes and vote as appropriate**

8:25-8:50

New Business

- Appoint Alyssa Short to one-year, At-Large Board member position starting July 1, 2022
- Annual meeting review for future planning
- "A look back for a better look forward"
- Date for annual Board retreat; July meeting?

8:50-9:00

Upcoming:

- Checkout: Did we abide by our Covenant?
- Next meeting:
- Newsletter article (Who?)
- Reading for the next meeting?
- QED (If timely, adjourn meeting to Moon Hollow. If not, find date)

*Items **bolded** are to be reviewed prior to the Board meeting

June 2022 Minister's Report to the Board
Submitted by Rev. Pam Philips

Leads Worship and Officiates Rites of Passage

Highlights of May worship were the annual bridging service, led by members of YRUU, to honor the graduating seniors bridging into young adulthood; guest preaching from Anna Tulou, who will be serving as our ministerial intern next fall; and heeding the call of beauty with two songs sung by our choir. Special thanks to the youth and advisor Jim Kern (who played guitar, subbing for Jared at the last minute due to illness).

In June, we are **celebrating blessings**, starting with a dual-platform Flower Service. We were able to include everyone in the flower rituals – those in the sanctuary and on Zoom – thanks to worship associates Gretchen Luke & Victoria Taylor, the children who helped deliver flowers, and Lucas Machi for helping show those at home on the screens in the sanctuary.

Special thanks to Kimberley Homer, who will be leading worship the last Sunday of June before stepping down from the worship team. And we welcome worship associate Heather Nicholson and AV chair Lucas Machi to the team.

I'm planning two memorial services – one in June and another in July – that will be held at UUC.

Provides Pastoral Care and Presence

I continue visiting with folks in my office, on the phone, at their homes, and in health care facilities. The Lay Pastoral Care Ministry members also continue to meet with congregants who are experiencing difficult times in their lives. Special recognition goes to Dick Bauman, one of our most-long-serving members, who announced his retirement from LPCM at our most recent meeting. He has helped many congregants through hard times and has contributed meaningfully to our meetings, offering thoughtful feedback and advice. We will miss his presence in LPCM.

Encourages Spiritual Development for Self and Others

The workshop I led on Article II was created using the Wellspring Program, which is designed especially to feed souls as well as minds.

Witnesses to Social Justice in the Public Square

The Anti-Racism Practice Group with Blacksburg Presbyterian Church finished up in May. The planning team is surveying the participants to inform our work as we resume in the fall. We are also planning to add another Blacksburg congregation into the work.

I joined a protest in support of access to abortion in the wake of the leak from the Supreme Court that presages the overturning of Roe v. Wade. It was good to see UUC members Bob & Polly Stimson among those standing in front of the Post Office on Main Street. In light of the expected ruling, we will be collecting a Half-Plate offering for the New River Abortion Access Fund.

I (along with UUC members Susan & Gary Wamsley and Erin & Charlotte Munsell) attended a small vigil after the horrific shooting at the elementary school in Uvalde, Texas. That group-- under the leadership of Moms Demand Action--needed a place to meet to plan further actions, and UUC has hosted those meetings in Elarth or on Zoom. I encourage all to attend the upcoming March for Our Lives on Saturday, June 11th, at 10:30 at Henderson Lawn (across from the Lyric Theater).

I attended the Inclusion Council meeting in May, where we planned a family-friendly Pride Picnic in Bisset Park on Thursday, June 15th. I encourage LGBTQ parents to attend—feel free to refer them to me for information.

Jamie and I attended the first "GrowPUNK" container garden workshop led by Kimberley Homer and look forward to future workshops, helping people who might not otherwise be able to grow their own plants.

Leads Administration

It's been a delight to welcome our new staff member, Ericka Kelly, who is receiving training from retiring administrator Lisa Evanylo throughout the month of June. She joined us for the flower service, annual meeting, and celebration for Lisa to meet the congregation.

Preparing for the annual meeting has highlighted for me how grateful I am for the board, the stewardship committee, the finance committee, the leadership development committee, the connections committee, and the committee on ministries. It has been such a pleasure to work with all these folks, but it has been especially great to see how much they have accomplished. While many congregations have struggled through the pandemic to maintain their services and membership, we have continued to welcome new members, to hire new staff (and increase the DLFD position to full-time), to maintain our programs, and to make progress on the goals set before us by the strategic planning committee.

Serves the Larger Unitarian Universalist Faith

I'm pleased to have completed my term as dean of the Joseph Jordan Cluster of Religious Professionals and have met with my successor to hand over the Google group and paperwork. This will give me more time to serve as teaching pastor for our new intern and to supervise our new staff members.

After completing the Article II workshop, I participated in a debriefing session with one of the members of the Article II commission. They will be presenting information at the upcoming General Assembly. Participants in the workshop at UUC – Marilyn and Frank DuPont, Dick Bauman, Tim Pickering, Helen Renqvist, and Jamie McReynolds have the opportunity to give their feedback to the commission in similar discussions.

Leads the Faith into the Future

I look forward to attending Ministry Days in Portland before the beginning of the General Assembly. The theme--Forever Changed: Practicing Ministry in Liminal Times--should prove helpful as we move ahead. The theme of General Assembly--Meet the Moment: Reimagining Radical Faith Community--likewise speaks to the times we are in AND the future of our faith.

Time away from Blacksburg

June 20-26 – Portland, Oregon for Ministry Days and General Assembly (working)

June 27 – July 11th – Vacation in Washington and California

August 5/7th – 15th – Vacation in Washington (including officiating at my niece's wedding!)

Administrator's Report to the Board June 9, 2022

Stewardship Update: We have now received 162 pledges for \$332,622.

Pledge Reminders: As the end of the fiscal year is a few weeks away, I'll be sending out pledge updates letters this week. Toward the end of the month, I'll let the treasurer know of those who still owe more than \$100 on their pledge. Wayne will then contact these people via email asking if they intend to pledge or to let him know if circumstances have changed and they won't be paying. People can pay their 2021-22 pledges through July 31 for it to be credited to this fiscal year. After that time, late payments will be credited to their 2021-22 pledge in PowerChurch, but the bookkeepers will credit it to 2022-23 as the books close on July 31 for this fiscal year. People also can submit receipts for 2021-22 through July 31.

Annual Committee Reports: I have received many reports which will be posted shortly in the member area of our website along with a highlights page.

New Admin Update: I purchased a new computer for Ericka Kelly, and wonderful Lucas Machi helped me load many of the UUC files to the computer. Also loaded some of the software used such as PowerChurch. Ericka and I are now working together 4 days a week so she can learn what the job entails. She is wonderful to work with, and I believe the congregation will be well-cared for and very happy. Everyone she has met so far has been very welcoming and friendly.

Meetings attended: Attended my last stewardship committee meeting as the admin in May.

Attendance/Members: See the Google Doc. Note that through Aug. 22, 2021 the numbers reflect the number of computers logging in via Zoom and not the actual number of people. As of Aug. 29, 2021, the numbers reflect those attending in person plus number of computers logged in via Zoom.

As this is my last Board report (hard to believe after all these years), I want to thank all of you for working so hard to keep UUC running smoothly this past year. You have been a very productive Board and accomplished a lot – particularly with having to deal with issues around Covid. Welcome to the new members and thank you for agreeing to serve in this way.

As I write this, I am still glowing from my amazing retirement celebration and all the good wish that people sent me – along with my special gifts. I feel so blessed and fortunate to have had this job for so many years in this very special place.

DLFD Report to the Board – June 2022

Submitted by Alyssa Short, Member of Interim Lifespan Faith Development Team

Children and Youth Programs:

In-Person CRE, MS, and YRUU: Spring semester ended on May 22. Attendance numbers decreased as the semester wound down, going from 19 to 7 students in the building on Sunday mornings. YRUU held their bridging ceremony during the May 15 worship service. MSYG hosted their end of year party and cookout on May 22.

Volunteer & Teacher Appreciation: LFD teachers and volunteers will receive gift cards to local establishments of their choice. Choices: New River Art & Fiber, India Garden, Crows Nest, or Halwa Bakery & Cafe.

May LFD Programs:

Auction Party for Kids: Deb Dickerson organized a party for UUC children during the auction event. 20 children signed up and 13 of them attended. A big thank you to Deb, Bob, Alex, and Jimmy Dickerson, and Anna Vijayan for supervising a fun night.

Upcoming LFD Programs:

Summer RE: Summer RE classes will run from June 12-August 14 (no class on July 3). All classes will take place outdoors, weather permitting. The PreK group will engage in free play. Brandie is adapting the *Holidays & Holy Days* curriculum for K-5 to do outdoors.

Summer Volunteer Recruitment: Thanks to Tiger, we recruited 13 volunteers to lead our summer program.

Nursery Care: Lisa and Alyssa are recruiting childcare providers with the goal of reopening the nursery during worship services beginning on Sunday, June 5.

LFD Staffing:

Transition Meeting: Rachel Craine will be meeting with Brandie, Sara, and Alyssa in June to prepare for the staffing transition from the Interim LFD Team to the settled DLFD.