

UUFD Congregational Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2019

We have 73 signed members as of May 2019. 40 members signed in for the meeting. We have a quorum.

- **Motion** to accept the minutes of the November 2018 congregational meeting.
Approved.
- **Motion** to approve the agenda for the current meeting. Added: Donna Veeneman will be presenting about the Green Sanctuary committee. **Approved** with this addition.
- Minister's report: Presented by Interim Minister Rev. Jenn Gracen.
 - This is Rev. Jenn's last congregational meeting at UUFD.
 - Her last day with UUFD will be Aug. 15. Her last worship service will be July 26.
 - She noted that there have been many changes in the past 2 years.
 - The ¼ time ministry was used up fast. She primarily focused her time on:
 - Worship team
 - Pastoral care
 - Staff and leadership
 - Office transition: Kathryn Jones has been our office manager for a little over 6 months.
 - Music transition: Bonnie Anderson will be stepping down as music director in one month.
 - Board transitions have taken place, including the loss of Jack Lazzara. The board has responded to transitions and challenges during this period.
 - Social justice: Rev. Jenn expressed that she's impressed with how the committee has transitioned and said thank you to the committee.
 - Worship: She expressed gratitude to the team that takes its job so seriously.
 - Love and gratitude to the congregation as a whole. "We'll miss you!"
- Search team report: Jenny Stamatakos reported that we have one applicant partly through the process and are optimistic.
- Budget discussion: Kriss Olsen, treasurer.
 - Kriss noted that we spent more on the furnace this year than expected.
 - We have previously voted to change the fiscal year to start in July (to match with tax quarters and the UUA fiscal year), so we need gap month pledges to cover the month of June.
 - Good news: We got \$60,000 in pledges this year, 10,000 more than last year.
 - We also got a rebate from Church Mutual Insurance.
 - Question from the congregation: Was there a significant change in number of people pledging?
 - Some people increased pledges.
 - Some additional people pledged.
 - We had a 6-person pledge team with great participation. This was a year of very good cooperation to make up for the loss of former UUFD president Jack Lazzara.

- **Motion:** To accept the budget as presented. **Passes unanimously.**
- Nominating Committee: The nominating committee presented updates about the UUFD board of trustees, as well as the slate of candidates.
 - Cathy Schneider resigned as board secretary earlier this spring. The board appointed Beth Schewe to finish out Cathy's term.
 - The nominating committee presented the following slate of candidates for the board term to begin in July 2019:
 - Tom Stamatakos: president elect
 - Ashley Ford: treasurer
 - Sumiko Keay: member at large
 - **Motion** to approve the slate as proposed. **Passed unanimously.**
- Green Sanctuary Committee: Donna Veeneman presented about the work of this subset of the Social Justice Ministry committee.
 - Thank you to Virginia Wilcox for her work.
 - The Social Justice committee has formed a group to work on the formal green sanctuary process.
 - This is a path for congregational study, reflection, and action in response to environmental challenges.
 - UUFD is working towards an official green sanctuary accreditation.
 - It is a natural next step for our congregation to assess our practices and educate ourselves about environmental issues and environmentally aware practices.
 - There is a 5-stage process towards accreditation:
 - Ends with action plan and application.
 - Currently: we have formed a group and are educating the congregation.
 - We have joined the Create Climate Justice Network, which will provide support during the process.
 - All are invited to participate in the committee.
 - What the committee is doing now:
 - Educating the congregation about recycling and providing a comprehensive list.
 - Sharing green sanctuary tips on our Facebook page as a form of outreach.
 - Planning educational workshops open to UUFD and the public.
- New Business:
 - Peter Gerlach proposed that at the next congregational meeting we amend the bylaws to require that the board include the agenda in announcements of the congregational meeting.
 - The board invited Peter to reach out to them in the coming weeks to formalize his proposal to the board.
 - The board intends to share the agenda going forward, even if the bylaw changes are not formally made yet.
- **Motion to adjourn. Approved.**

Respectfully submitted by Beth Schewe.