

UUSS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Thursday, June 25, 2020, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom

Minutes



Present: Kathy Bernard, Rev. Lucy Bunch, Rev. Roger Jones, Marilyn Reynolds, Hally Cahssai, David Harlow, Victoria Owens, Denis Edgren, Sandra Navarro, Sally White

1. Welcome: Sally White

Meeting convened at: 7:10 p.m.

- a. Established quorum
- b. Introduced guests (Anara Guard, Eric Ross, Karen Gunderson, Meg Gunderson, Marion Randall, Claudia Desmangles)

2. Chalice Lighting and Centering: Hally Cahssai Remembrances of Roger Olson were expressed.

3. Consent Agenda

- a. Approved May minutes as written.

4. Treasurer's Report: Victoria Owens

- May financials
For the month of May, UUSS's net income was \$9,811 below projections. Per our commitment, we are continuing to pay our staff their full compensation
- Finance Committee update
 - The Finance Committee met in June to discuss the draft budget for FY 2020-2021.
 - The Finance Committee worked up a very conservative version of the draft budget. Victoria requested direction from the Board on how to proceed balancing priorities (e.g., staff raises, contingency fund and new programs such as the denominational student intern and student advisors for UUSS junior and senior high school students).
 - The Finance Committee is discussing the allocation of the Barr bequest and will have a recommendation at the July Board of Trustees meeting

5. Report from the 8th Principle Task Force (Karen Gunderson, Meg Gunderson, Marion Randall, Claudia Desmangles)

Task Force members provided a summary of the "8th Principle" to Sally White (attached to these minutes). The UUSS Board of Trustees gave its full support to the task force to begin the process of presenting this (for adoption) at a future UUSS congregational meeting.

6. Committee Substantive Issues

a. Program Council: Marilyn Reynolds, Liaison

The Program Council is reforming. There are currently two vacancies on the Council.

b. APMC (Administration and Property Management): Rev. Lucy Bunch

The APMC met on June 25. The live-streaming camera has been installed in the UUSS sanctuary. Bids are being received for property fencing. Final tasks for the patio cover project include installation of fans, lighting, and sky lights. Bids are being received tree removal and trimming.

c. Stewardship: David Harlow, Liaison

As of June 12, pledges in the amount of \$546,000 have been received.

d. FRSC (Fundraising Strategy Committee): Kathy Bernard, Liaison, and Rev. Roger Jones

In Kathy's absence, Rev. Dr. Roger Jones reported. The committee met in May.

Additional members and a committee chair are sought. There will be no fall auction at UUSS; the Auction Committee is investigating the proposal of a virtual auction to be held in the spring of 2021.

e. Nominating: Hally Cahssai, Liaison

No report currently.

7. Minister Reports (reports are provided via email weekly during this pandemic)

a. Both Rev. Dr. Roger and Rev. Lucy have been participating in the UU General Assembly (virtual event this year due to the corona virus pandemic).

b. Summer schedule

Rev. Dr. Roger and Rev. Lucy plan to take time off during the summer. Dates will be announced soon.

8. Board Business: Sally White

a. Strategic Plan update (communications)

The Communications Committee has met twice. There are eight committee members. The committee is preparing a focus group survey (July 1-6), prior to a possible all-congregation survey.

b. General Assembly delegates

- Hally Cahssai
- Tracy Jones
- Marion Randall
- Celia Buckley
- Denis Edgren

- Claudia Desmangles
- Sally White
- Mary Howard

- c. Replacement for Trustee Roger Olson will be identified by the date of the Board of Trustees retreat (August 3, 2020). Contact Sally White (by email) with suggested candidates.

UUSS Constitution:

Section 9 (Vacancies): (1) When a vacancy occurs in any position on the Board of Trustees and there is at least four (4) months until the next election, then the Board of Trustees shall appoint a member of the Society to fill the vacancy until the next election. At the next election, the position shall be filled by a vote during the congregational meeting for a full term. However, for the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, the vacant position shall be filled by congregational vote for a one-year term if that election occurs in a year in which that position would not normally be elected for a full two-year term.

- d. Physical Gathering Task Force (report)

- Lorri Reynard
- Alecia Sanchez
- Stephanie Moczydlowski
- Mary Howard
- Sally Wilkins
- Karen Sparrow
- Hally Cahssai
- Sally White

A draft document (regarding guidelines for outdoor church events during the corona virus pandemic) from the Physical Gathering Task Force was discussed by the Board. Changes were agreed upon. The task force will make these recommended changes to the proposal. The revised document will be emailed to Board members and ministers for review and a vote. Once approved, notification of this new policy will be posted on the UUSS website. The guidelines will be communicated to the congregation via the Ministers' reports. Sally will include a message from the President.

- e. Board of Trustees retreat via Zoom

The annual Board of Trustees retreat will be held via Zoom on Monday, August 3, 2020, 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

9. Next Meetings:

- a. Executive Board Meeting (via Zoom): Monday, July 13 at 5:00 p.m.

- b. Board Meeting (via Zoom): Thursday, July 23, 7:00 p.m.; Sally White to provide chalice lighting and centering

10. Closing: Hally Cahssai

11. Meeting Adjournment: 9:25 p.m.

THE 8TH PRINCIPLE

BUILDING THE BELOVED COMMUNITY & DISMANTLING RACISM

Proposed 8th Principle: *“We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote: journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.”*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

THE UU PRINCIPLES

Article II of the UUA Bylaws, Principles and Purposes, is the foundation for all of the work of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) and its member congregations and covenanted communities. The long process to integrate a new 8th Principle into the bylaws of the UUA began in 2018.

The 8th Principle explicitly states that spiritual wholeness requires creating diverse and multicultural communities. And it points to actions — dismantling white supremacy culture and other oppressions, with accountability.

If successful, the 8th Principle will be adopted at the 2022 UUA General Assembly.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR USS

As a member congregation of UUA, a democratically governed organization, USS has a stake in the decision whether to adopt the 8th Principle.

Even before the 8th Principle is adopted by the UUA, some Unitarian Universalist congregations have already incorporated it into their covenants and strategic planning. We are beginning this conversation with our congregation in support of the 8th Principle so USS can join the other early adopter congregations.

The third goal of our current USS strategic plan addresses racial justice in ourselves, our congregation, and our community. With the mandate of our strategic plan, serious consideration of the proposal for the 8th Principle is imperative.

Current events that have spotlighted systemic inequities and racism make this consideration even more timely and urgent.

WHAT THE RACIAL JUSTICE TEAM IS PLANNING

We are planning to deepen our congregation's understanding of racial inequities and racial justice through educational materials and conversations, (primarily online and via Zoom while the pandemic lasts).

We are introducing the proposed 8th Principle for discussion in the congregation over the coming months. We will be hosting the first conversation in July via Zoom. It is our hope that UUSS will formally become an early adopter of the principle with a vote of the congregation.