

UUFCO ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES: FY 2022-23

Annual Meeting
Location: Sanctuary and Zoom
May 21, 2023

Minutes by Ella Chatterjee, Board Secretary

Meeting called to order by Laura Voisinet, Board President, at 11:20

The meeting opened with the chalice lighting by Marean Jordan.

Laura Voisinet began the meeting by showing pictures of the Board members whose term ended this year: Daelene Schwartz, Past President, Fletcher Chamberlin, Treasurer, and Ella Chatterjee, Secretary. Laura urged the congregation to thank them for their steady and devoted service over the past three years.

Carolyn Tate discussed our first ministerial review. Carolyn was on the review committee with Daelene Schwartz, John McKee, and Grace Kennedy. They used the UUA handbook, Fulfilling the Call, as a guide for understanding the duties of Unitarian Universalist Ministers. The book focused on the following duties: leading worship, overseeing rites of passage, extending pastoral care, acting as a witness to social justice in the public square, exercising administrative skills, pursuing professional development, serving the larger faith, and leading faith into the future. With these duties in mind, the review committee sought a self evaluation from Reverend Scott, and input from 15 stakeholders, the congregation and the staff. The responses from these sources were generally very favorable. There was an expressed desire for more advanced preparations for services and for the congregation to be more informed about Reverend Scott's activities in the social justice area.

Gwen Baker-Yuill of the Leadership Development Committee (LDC), noted that Marean Jordan will be leaving the LDC and thanked her for her four years of wise and dedicated service on the committee.

Gwen discussed the criteria for the positions to be filled this year on the Board, the Endowment Committee and LDC. She explained how nominations could be made from the floor, in person or on Zoom.

Linda Johnson of LDC presented the open elected positions for the Board of Trustees, the Endowment Committee, and LDC.

Nominees for the open Board positions with three-year terms are Heather McNeil for Vice President, Jaz Halberstadt for Secretary and Mark Hickman for Treasurer.

The continuing Board members for FY2023-24 are John McKee, President, Laura Voisinet, Past President, Grace Kennedy, At-Large and Robert Hedeem, At-Large.

Nominees for two-year terms on the Endowment Committee are Donald Bear, Duke Chadsey, Don Hartsough, and Rob Kinney. Joan Landsberg who has served two two-year terms is nominated for an additional year.

Nominees for the LDC are Susie Hickman, who has served for one year on LDC, for Seat 5, which is a three year term, and Daelene Schwartz for Seat 4. The continuing LDC members for FY 2023-24 are Linda Johnson, Seat 1; Sallie Neilie, Seat 2; and Gwen Baker-Yuill, Seat 3. Thanks was given to outgoing member Marean Jordan for four years of dedicated service to the committee.

After a fifteen minute interval allowing for nominations from the floor or on Zoom, nominations were closed.

Fletcher Chamberlin presented the proposed budget for the year 2023-2024 which was sent to all members with the announcement of the annual meeting. He noted that the Finance Committee again proposes a balanced budget with annual operating revenue of \$668,850 and expenses of \$666,998, resulting in a small surplus of \$1,852. The proposed budget includes pay increases of 6% for staff as well as increases for the ongoing maintenance of the building and grounds. There is also a proposed increase in social justice commitments from \$12,000 to \$14,000.

Fletcher reported that the Solar Project will have a net cost of \$183,537. Funds in the amount of \$115,000 have already been raised. A 30% down payment has been made and other needed funds will be borrowed from the building fund to be paid off in 6 years.

Fletcher emphasized that there are uncertainties in the coming year. Rental income is variable and it is likely that funds will be required for the audio visual system, which is wearing out and will need replacing. He also noted that there will likely be need for increased staff to support the current growth. Although the overall economic health of the fellowship is strong, largely due to the generosity of the fellowship in meeting pledge campaign goals, it should be understood that there is a narrow pledge pyramid, with much of the pledged amount coming from a small number of large donors.

Laura Voisinet explained voting by email, noting that each member would receive confirmation when their ballot was successfully cast.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Ninety-five members attended the meeting either in person or on Zoom.

As of 5pm on May 21, 2023, 166 ballots were cast by email. The nominees for the Board of Trustees were approved unanimously.

The nominees for the Endowment Committee and LDC were approved by a majority.

The budget was approved by a majority.

The agenda for the 2023 annual meeting and the minutes for the 2022 annual meeting were approved by a majority.