**Unitarian Universalist Society
Board of Trustees
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – July 11, 2019**

**Present**: Amy Fretz (President), Joe Rasmussen (Vice-President), Jane DeWitt (Past-President), Chris Rode (Treasurer), Allison Bettine (Secretary), Michael Honey-Arcement (Trustee), Paul Pomrehn (Trustee), John Raley (Finance Trustee) and Colleen Higgins (Trustee) *via Zoom*, Peggy Garrigues (Staff Representative)

**Absent**: Rev. Diane Dowgiert (Ex-officio)

Board President Fretz called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Fretz provided opening words followed by the chalice lighting and a brief check-in by Board members.

**Consent Agenda & Announcements:** Consent agenda and other items are uploaded to Dropbox for Board review prior to the meeting.

*Consent Agenda items: Board Agenda; July Executive Committee Minutes;* *June Board Meeting Highlights & Minutes; Minister’s Monthly Report; Financials
Other items: Updated Contact List*

Pomrehn raised questions about the Historical Records Committee’s report and their proposal to name a cabinet after Marilyn Jennewein. This led to a much longer conversation about the practice of not naming gifts or spaces after a donor or cherished member. Fretz suggested the Board look to create a policy or addendum to the current Gift Policy in order to be consistent so that there is less confusion around this issue. There was some concern that such a policy may discourage large gifts in the future while other expressed that such a policy was unnecessary. Gifts Policy conversation to be tabled until the next meeting.

*Moved by Pomrehn, seconded by DeWitt that the Board receive the Consent Agenda.* *Motion carried.
Moved by Rasmussen, seconded by Honey-Arcement that the Board approve the July Executive Minutes, June Board Meeting Highlights and Minutes pending noted changes. Motion carried.* There were no email votes during the past month.

**Board Retreat Workshop:** The Board discussed different dates to have the Board Retreat. The only date that worked for everyone was Saturday August 17th from 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM at the Recycling Center on Scott Blvd.

**Mission and Vision Workshop Update:** There have been concerns over the timing of the Mission and Vision Workshop will coincide with the Ministerial Search Committee’s timeline of events. In preparation for the July Board Meeting, Fretz spoke with Rev. Dowgiert who affirmed that the Mission and Vision Workshop be completed during the interim ministry and recommended rescheduling the Mission and Vision Workshop to January or February. At that meeting, Rev. Dowgiert went onto say once your new minister has arrived and settled in, we may want to revisit the Mission and Vision to see if it still holds, adding that ideally, the Mission and Vision is updated every 3 to 5 years.

**Governance Committee Update:** Pomrehn stated the Governance Committee has just finished the policies regarding the minister and staff, noting that there are significant changes in the way the minister oversees the staff. It is a change for UUS. He suggested everyone review Hotchkiss, “Governance in Ministry” to see how our governance will actually change. He also shared a proposal for changes to the board covenant. We will discuss this more at the board retreat August 17th, 2019.

DeWitt spoke about how there use to be covenantal ceremonies to introduce different groups like the board, re, etc. Usually this was given by the minister and the group would repeat some things and the congregation would as well. The Board responded positively to this and expressed interested in taking part in a covenantal ceremony with the congregation.

**Conflict of Interest proposed policy and statement 2nd Read and Vote to Accept:** A second reading of the Conflict of Interest Policy proposal occurred and the change recommended by the Executive Committee was discussed and approved.

*Moved by* Honey-Arcement*, seconded by Fretz that the Board accept the Conflict of Interest Policy (pending noted changes). Motion carried.*

**Board Committees Update:** DeWitt to start Right Relations/Covenant Committee working with Higgins. The Staff Relations Committee will morph into the Personnel Committee. Currently they are redoing their policies to better align with the UUA’s policies. The Assessment Committee still needs to be formed and Fretz said that Honey-Arcement would be interested in helping with this.

The 5 Board Committees are currently as follows:

1. **Right Relations/Covenant Committee,** Chairperson: DeWitt
2. **Finance Committee** (*formerly Finance Council)*, Chairperson: Raley
3. **Governance Committee**, Chairperson: Pomrehn
4. **Personnel Committee** (*formerly Staff Relations*), Chairperson: TBD
5. **Assessment Committee**

**Engaging Our Theological Diversity:** Fretz reported that Rev. Dowgiert is preparing for a congregational forum series entitled “Engaging Our Theological Diversity” to occur in seven monthly sessions from September 2019 through March 2020. Garrigues stated that the Engaging Our Theological Diversity forums are intended to encourage authentic conversations between people of diverse religious and philosophical beliefs in our congregation. While the purpose is to have meaningful conversations and share, it is not intended to resolve the conflict at the congregational meeting or move forward with the Free Thinker designation.

**Ministerial Search Committee:** Fretz gave an update from Dave Martin on the Ministerial Search Committee's next steps: they will have a congregational survey prepared for September, cottage meetings for anyone in the congregation, and focus groups to meet with people sharing common work areas or interests.

**Closing**: Dewitt read the closing words, Honey-Arcement gave process observer comments, tasks were reviewed, and Fretz adjourned the meeting at 8:30p.m. The next Board meeting is Thursday, August 9th, 2019, starting at 6:30 p.m. in the UUS Conference Room.

Submitted by Allison Bettine, Secretary