

Unitarian Universalist Society
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
7:00pm, August 16, 2023, UUS Conference Room
UUS Board Meeting Highlights

Present: Jeff Walberg (President), Rochelle Honey-Arcement (Vice President), Christine Etlar (Secretary), Mike Pavelich (Treasurer), Monique DiCarlo (Trustee), Diana Henry (Trustee), Rev. Diana Smith (Ex-officio)

Absent: none. Quorum met. **Guest:** none

Meeting Opened at 7:07 pm with check-in

Chalice Lighting-Opening Words: Diana Henry (7:24)

Consent Agenda

P1 Board Meeting Minutes – July	P4 Governance Committee Minutes – Aug 13
P2 Minister's Report - July	P5 Land Ministry Report – Aug 14
P3 Treasurer's Report - July	

Motion by Pavelich: Approve the consent agenda; seconded by DiCarlo.

Walberg motioned to amend the minutes; seconded by DiCarlo. The Board voted unanimously to approve the amendment.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the main motion.

Vision of Ministry Development

The annual review of the Vision of Ministry was conducted. A document was developed during the discussion.

Motion by DiCarlo: Adopt this Vision of Ministry as written (with potential minor changes expected);

Honey-Arcement seconded. The Board voted unanimously to approve the main motion.

Set Congregational Meeting Dates

Congregational Meeting dates were set: December 17, 2023 for the Budget meeting and May 19, 2024 for the Elections meeting.

Motion by Pavelich/DiCarlo: Approve the Congregational Meeting dates for the next year; DiCarlo seconded.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Open Question Planning (25 min)

We will solicit input from the congregation on the Open Question that we finalized at the last Board meeting. Multiple opportunities will be provided, beginning with a table at the Opportunities fair (introduction to both questions) and during and after the 9/17 service (1 question, with the second being presented and discussed at a later time). The discussion focused on planning for the upcoming events.

Ministerial Intern for 2024-25 Discussion (Rev. Diana, 15 min)

Rev Diana has an opportunity to supervise a ministerial intern during the 2024-2025 congregational year.

Although, this will incur a cost for the intern's stipend, benefits may include fresh input to the ministry and coverage for the sabbatical the Rev Diana has planned for early 2025. Additionally, there is a grant available from the UUA that may defray the costs of having an intern. The application is due in November. Generally, the Board is supportive but we will need input from the Finance Committee. We will revisit the decision at the October meeting.

Right Relations Policy Feedback

The Right Relations Committee has been developing draft documents for our committee charter and a procedure for Restoring Right Relations. The feedback received at this meeting will be taken back to the committee as it develops the documents further. After which, they will present to the Governance committee.

The Right Relations Committee has completed their training and preparations and are ready to advertise to the congregation as a whole. An email will be sent out to members with information on the role of the Committee and a contact email (rightrelations@uusic.org).

Added Agenda Item – Governance Committee Minutes

We briefly discussed the Governance Committee minutes, including their concerns. Rev. Diana and Jeff Walberg will be attending the upcoming meeting to continue the discussion.

Closing

There were no guest comments. Honey-Arcement gave process observer comments, Etler provided closing words, and the chalice was extinguished. *Pavelich moved to adjourn the meeting; motion was seconded by Henry and it was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:59 pm.*

Minutes Addendum for business conducted outside of regular monthly meeting:

8/28/23 – A special closed meeting of the Board was held to discuss the candidates for the open Music Director position.

9/10/23 – A special closed meeting of the Board was held to discuss a matter involving a member of the congregation.

Meeting Minutes submitted by Christine Etler, Board Secretary

Approved 9/20/23

The attached document *Record of email votes 2022.2023* was also approved on 9/20/23.

-CPE

Record of Email votes from the 2022/2023 congregational year

16 September 2023

From this date forward, email votes will be documented in the meeting minutes.

Note on documenting email votes: The first trustee to propose an e-vote is recorded as the individual who made the motion. The first trustee to reply with a "yes" vote is recorded as the second.

10/24/22

Honey-Arcement motioned that the Board support the Chalice Lighter Grant application to support plans to offer summer camps and pre-school. Henry seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

11/10/22

Honey-Arcement motioned to allow food to be purchased for the DLRE start-up events later in November (dinner Friday evening and breakfast on Saturday). Swanson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

11/22/22

Pavelich motioned to approve a fundraising request for a Holiday Cookie Exchange . Honey-Arcement seconded. 6 votes yes. 3 no response (abstain). Quorum was met with 6 trustees voting. Motion passes.

11/28/22

Etlar motioned to approve the following change to the congregational meeting agenda: agenda item, "Approval of \$620,000 2023 UUS Budget", changed to "Approval of \$610,000 2023 UUS Budget". Honey-Arcement seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

12/7/22

Honey-Arcement motioned to send a letter of support to Agudas Achim synagogue in response to recent hate messages directed to their congregation. Henry seconded. 7 votes yes, 2 no response (abstain). Quorum was met with 7 trustees voting. Motion passes.

Dear Beloved Neighbors,

As President of the Board of Trustees at the Unitarian Universalist Society, I want to express my deep sadness and our full support of your congregation regarding the hate messages you received. Agudas Achim has been a long time partner of ours and we, on the board, our staff, and our congregation, want to express our outrage at this act and our commitment to fight hate and build beloved community in Johnson County and the wider world. We stand with you and are ready to provide support.

Currently, our minister, the Rev. Diana Smith, is on temporary medical leave, but I know she values the relationship she has been developing with Rabbi Esther. In this time while she is gone, you may contact me or our Church Administrator, Emma Barnum, if you have specific needs with which we can help. Please know that we value you as our neighbors, our friends, and our beloved community members. We are in this with you for the long haul and will work with you to make community one of love and healing, not of hatred and bigotry.

In love and peace,

*Rochelle Honey-Arcement
Board of Trustees President
Unitarian Universalist Society*

3/28/23

Honey-Arcement motioned to support the use of Reese Funds for the Bio Cell repair work requested by the Land ministry. Swanson seconded. 8 votes yes. 1 no response (abstain). Quorum was met with 8 trustees voting. Motion passes.

5/23/23

The following vote was undertaken by the Executive Committee due to the time-sensitivity of the matter. Honey-Arcement made a motion to address an error on the ballot for the congregational election meeting by sending out an explanatory message to the congregation. Walberg seconded. The motion had full support of all 5 executive committee members.

The ballot for the current election contains an error. Dan Cummins is listed as a candidate for the Leadership Development Committee. He is a candidate for Endowment Committee. It is not possible to edit an election while it is running so the current election ballot cannot be corrected. We have decided to let the election continue with the understanding that your vote in relation to Dan Cummins' candidacy will be counted toward his election to the Endowment Committee.

If you have already voted and you wish to change your vote, you have the option of requesting a new ballot. In this circumstance, your previous ballot will not be counted. Keep in mind that the new ballot key will give you access to the current ballot and not a corrected one. Please contact Christine Etlar at piontkofsky@gmail.com or (319) 541-4960 if you would like a new ballot key.

If you have concerns about this decision please email Rochelle Honey-Arcement at president@uusic.org.

Best Regards,

*Christine Etlar
Secretary, UUS Board of Trustees*