

UUFH Board Meeting

July 15, 2025

Attendees: Liza Burby, Laura Otton, Jim Ammerman, Allyson Barish, Jenna Kern-Rugile, Jon Nielsen, Melissa Dinsman, Connie Rinaldi. Absent: Susan Peters

Chalice Lighting (Liza): – “A Prayer for This Gathering” by Laila Ibrahim

Covenant: Reviewed by Melissa

Housekeeping (Liza): Each month the Exec Committee meets to set the agenda a week before the Board meeting. Please email Liza before that date if you have something that needs to be added. Summaries will be shared before the meetings. Please read them, as well as all attachments, before the meeting as there may be questions for you to answer and this way you can be prepared to bring up any concerns/questions during the meeting. Sunday Greeting: Jackie Agdern asked that we each take one Sunday during the summer to help her greet. It's a light lift and a good way to have newcomers and others get to know you.

Discussion and Vote Items–

1. Consent Agenda: June Minutes unanimously approved.

Carry-over issues to get on record (Liza): Check summaries for more details

Policy Manual—*Liza, Melissa and Sue McGovern have already done a lot of work on this; in process*

Accessibility Committee Charter/Members—*Laura will meet with chair Beth Ann Balalaos*

Strategic Planning—*Jim had a report from the committee, which is now in the summaries*

Stewardship Questions—*Allyson reached out to Jen Sappell with answers/updates*

Bylaws—*in process*

Survey results for governance—*added during meeting for Laura*

Memorial Committee—*revisit in September*

Legacy Circle/Gift Policy—*revisit in September*

Finance Update (Allyson): The Church Mutual insurance issue has been resolved; we've been renewed thanks to the efforts of Allyson, Jason D'Orazio who was supervising the electrician one day before work and back again after work, provided photos of the fuse box that was changed and so much more. Allyson forecast a 15% price increase. TBD.

She said she didn't share the financials this month because she and bookkeeper Marianne Reuter are working on closing the last fiscal year and there's nothing yet to say for the current fiscal year. She's hoping by the next meeting to have a final or preliminary on how the year ended up. She's also following up on people who haven't finalized their pledges.

Also, the upgrade from Icon, which was our old church management software, to Realm is just starting. Sandra has the files to Realm and they are going to work their magic. And then Allyson anticipates spending much of the rest of the summer learning how to use it with a group of “super users:” Sandra, Allyson, Jen Sappell and Sue McGovern for Stewardship, Shelley Lauer Bader for membership, and Shel Lipsky for the counters. Liza thanked Allyson for her heavy lift on the Church Mutual situation.

Ad Hoc Team for RE (Laura and Connie): The 2025-'26 budget has about \$4,000 set aside to be used for long-term planning for the RE program, possibly hiring a consultant. BOT agreed that it should form an ad hoc committee to work on a long-term vision; this committee would include parents, teachers, RE committee members, Sandra, and Rev. Israel. It would also work alongside the Strategic Planning Committee.

Next steps: Laura and Melissa to work on a charter for the August board meeting.

Volunteer Fair for September: Jenna agreed to help organize the Volunteer Fair. She has already confirmed that Sept. 28 works with the majority of the committees and secured the date with Sandra on the UUFH calendar.

Retreat dates: We confirmed the Board retreat for Oct. 3-4, which also works for Rev. Israel and Erin Hilgart, the 2024 facilitator. We'll have a potluck on Friday night and some activities. Saturday is a 9-3ish agenda. Since that coincides with the pumpkin deliveries, we'll do an hour of community service on Saturday as well. It's already on the UUFH calendar. Like last year, Erin will be contacting each of us for 30-minute Zoom meetings to see what our individual goals and thoughts are. It was helpful last year to learn common themes.

Thank You of the Month (Liza): Trying something new to thank volunteers beyond the Unsung Hero in June. We can put it in the flash, then that following Sunday mention it as the service. This month Liza posted an article about the Safety Team's webinar for GA, particularly Bryce Klatsky and Michael Goldsmith, then at the service, had the whole Safety Team stand for acknowledgment. Start to think of August *thank you* now.

Next Board Meeting: 8/19 @ 7 pm (Rev. Israel will join us!)

Submitted by Liza Burby