

First Universalist Church, Unitarian Universalist  
Auburn, ME  
Board of Directors  
Meeting Minutes  
April 3, 2024  
Via Zoom

Present: Anne Perron (President), Linda Greathouse (Vice President), David Das (Clerk), Jane Pentheny (member-at-large), John Spruill (member-at-large), Reverend Patrick McLaughlin (*ex officio*).

Excused Absence: Claire Hebert

Guests: Levesque

**6:35** Anne Perron called the meeting to order.



*Board Chalice*

Anne read the Mission Statement, said some opening words.

Anne lit the chalice; she called on all of us to work together to create and strengthen community.

Brief sharing. Our thoughts were with Claire at this time of great difficulty.

**Quorum; but Minister and one Board member had not yet joined. Agenda reordered.**

**Open Session:** No comments.

**Consent Agenda:**

- March 20, 2024 Minutes

Motion to approve: Linda

Second: John

Unanimous approval.

### **Alcohol Use Policy:**

- Existing 2016 policy is fine.
- Some revisions to allow non-church groups to serve alcohol.
- Final draft to be voted on at May 1 Board meeting.

### **Emergency Closure Policy:**

- Draft a good starting point. Various revisions and questions:
  - Notification by 7am on the day of worship
  - How and where to communicate the decision. Need to bring our Communications chair into the conversation (David will liaise with Toby).
  - What to do with renters? Especially with regard to plowing schedule.

### **Minister's Report:**

- “Not much going on”:
  - Finishing up the Transitional Ministry program.
  - Working with Samantha McCune on possibility of Samantha becoming RE Coordinator.
    - Up to 10 hours per week
    - Create a job description that can grow.
    - Background check requirements.
    - Samantha will do OWL training online.
  - General discussion of OWL (Our Whole Lives – a human sexuality program from middle school age to adult).
    - Works for middle school and high school; very attractive to parents.
    - Effective with young adults.
    - A great opportunity to cast a wide net
      - Program developed in partnership with UCC; perhaps an opportunity to offer it to both UUists and UUCists.
      - Make it broadly available to members of the public.
      - A high value program.
  - Seeing more pastoral ministry/care requests coming directly to him; growing comfort level and familiarity with Patrick.
  - Tech Associates meeting tomorrow (Thursday).

### **President's Report:**

- TV for lobby/meeting room. Looking at a camera.
- Has done research on making mezzanine level accessible.
- GA delegates: Anne Kinney, Claire Hebert; looking for one more.
- Need to create a snail mail list for those who are blessedly off-line.
- Some B&G and rental updates.

### **Board Member Communications:**

- John: Continues to work on Section VIII rent questions with regard to 159 Pleasant St. apartment. Will keep us updated.

### **Council of Committees Recap:**

- Linda gave a summary of the meeting. Details in Council minutes to be posted online.
  - Struck by how much work is being done by a relatively small number of people.
  - Need for a Newsletter to publicize Committee news.
- Committee budgets: budgeted, requested.
  - Will forward to Finance to discuss at their next meeting.
- Patrick reiterated that the Board owns the budget.
- Discussion re: timing – when does the Board see the budget?

### **Board Social:**

- Axe throwing extravaganza scheduled for Thursday, May 16, 6pm.

### **Open Session:**

- Levesque: B&G needs to know our renters' plans in light of a snow storm – coordinate the plowing schedule. Needs to be a clear protocol: who and by when to contact.

### **8:35 Adjournment**

Respectfully submitted,

David H. Das (Clerk)