

First Universalist Church, Unitarian Universalist
Auburn, ME
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
February 7, 2024
Bonnie Soper Room

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*).

Guests: None

7:00: Anne Perron called the meeting to order.



Board Chalice

Linda read the Mission Statement.

Patrick read a section from the “Covenant for Auburn UU Board of Directors” from the Board Policy Manual.

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

Brief sharing by Board members.

Minister’s Report:

- Need to recruit more worship associates; especially those interested in preaching.
- Looking to create an RE Vision group.
- Budgeting process:
 - Board needs to create a vision; to have input in budget creation based upon that vision. How do we support that vision?
- Board should ask committees to provide monthly updates.
- Pastoral Care Committee
 - Doing excellent work.
 - Good communication with the minister.

- Continues to work on job descriptions and contracts.
- Board may wish to talk to our UU Regional Office about new models of congregational organization.
 - Smaller volunteer base.
- Welcomes sermon topic suggestions.

President's Report:

- Good feedback on the January 28 Town Hall.
- Some rental updates.
- Seeing new people on Sundays.

Board Member Communications:

- None

Consent Agenda:

- January 17, 2024 Minutes

Motion to approve: Linda

Second: Jane

Unanimous approval.

Open Session:

- No Comments

Financial Resolve:

- Linda Greathouse made the following motion:

Resolved: the Board of Directors of the First Universalist Church of Auburn, Unitarian Universalist, hereby authorizes Gregory F. Bianconi MD to act on its behalf concerning the following accounts:

**Amundi Pioneer Bond Fund A acct # 322225
PSEG stock acct # 3501792133**

- Second by: Jane Pentheny
- Approved unanimously.

COVID Policy:

- Time to adopt a policy; can always tweak it if need be.
- Do need to install air purifiers.

Motion to approve COVID policy: Linda

Second: Jane

Unanimously approved.

Town Hall Follow-Up:

- General conversation
 - Music and RE rose to the top during Town Hall.
 - Role of the Board in creating a vision.
 - How to link that vision/overarching theme to Stewardship campaign?
 - Real sense of a desire for community
 - How can the Board help?
 - Role of Board in creating the opportunity to “Do Church Well.”
 - The importance of small groups.
 - Music: possibility of small ensembles.
 - On-line opportunities.
 - How do we liberate all that great congregational energy?
 - “What would you do if you had permission?”
 - Boundaries will be important; structure and coordination.
 - Another Town Hall on this theme?
 - Patrick to structure a service around this?

8:50 Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

David H. Das (Clerk)