



Meeting Notes
First Universalist Church Board
August 19, 2019 6:00 pm

Opening:

- Light the Chalice, Establish Quorum
- PRESENT: Joanna, Abby, Jen, Marge, Sarah, Frieda, Joe, Nancy D.
- ABSENT: Annie, Meghan

Consent Agenda

- Minutes from previous meeting
- Sign ups for announcements and plate counting are live! Please go sign up.

Announcers: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080948a4a62ba0fa7-uuannouncements>

Plate Counting: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080948a4a62ba0fa7-uuplate>

Discussion Areas:

- Search Fundraiser (Sept. 28) - Sarah will send info to Steve for dissemination to Search Committee. (DONE)
- (PL SEE UPDATED PLANS IN 9/9 NOTES!)
 - Leadership retreat (Nov. 2) - combining with Beyond Categorical Thinking workshop - determine content and attendee list etc. Further work on format and content to be done by Joanna, Meghan, Joe?
 - Morning Workshop with Keith 9 am
 - Lunch: baked potato buffet?
 - Afternoon LD retreat 1-4
 - material from UUA Spiritual L'ship
 - subcommittee to develop content
- Healing – How to rebuild trust?
 - Work continues for our congregation (work focus for Nancy D., Rev. Frieda, Transition Team) - what is planned, is it adequate? Next meeting is this month.
 - LETTER To UUA • Sarah will re-send for ongoing review. Note: Rev. Frieda says to send it to these UUA staff: The Rev Sarah Lammert, Co-Director, Ministries and Faith Development and Ms. Heather Bond, Intake, Office of Ethics and Safety.
 - Discussion of an independent audit. How often, by whom, and for what purpose. Discussion of lingering concerns of financial improprieties. An audit may identify areas of financial procedure improvements. Sarah to speak with her spouse Drew who is a CPA and advises non-profits. Note: Drew has some recommendations for best practices (e.g. no credit card for personnel) and suggests a working session with Stewardship Committee.
 - Code of Ethics for future ministries. To the extent that the fault is with the congregation – what can we put in place NOW to learn about what healthy ministry boundaries are, for future relationships? We want to acknowledge grievances, and identify ways that things will change.
- When Bad Things happen in the greater world (e.g. mass shootings, other tragedies) - what should the role of First Universalist be? HOLD for discussion next month.
- Goals - Board goals are in place through end of 2019. Start thinking about 2020, but also, are we doing enough to review progress (board, committees, councils, minister) on a regular

basis. Formalize/publish the process? Confirm liaisons and roles.

- Review important dates and get them on our personal calendars. Include Mid and Annual Meetings: January 26th, June 7th.
- Financial Update - FY19 DRAFT Final, and FY20 YTD.
 - Board voted unanimously to authorize transfer of \$2000 from year end balance to transitional fund.
 - Clam Festival report will be forwarded to Board FYI. Stewardship will discuss.
- Shared Ministry FIA items: (See report from Marge)
 - Families-in-Action – Board voted unanimously to approve this in concept. Let's pursue! Details will be developed by FIA and subgroup. Pilot project.
 - 95 Main / YCHI Update FYI
- Staff updates:
 - Board voted unanimously to approve Temporary Supervision of Staff during Interim year. Joanna will supervise Gwen and Marge Connie.
 - Proposal regarding the open 2nd RE teacher position. Gwen suggests youth group leader. Board accepts this. Leadership Development will assist with recruiting.
- OTHER
 - Rev. Frieda reported some thoughts from the recent Worship Council Retreat to the Board, including their recommendation that there be fewer or no spoken announcements in the Worship Service. The Board feels responsibility for communicating important projects and events however, and will guide an effort to minimize announcements.

Next meetings:

Board: September 9th, October 14th, November 11th etc. (Please mark all second Mondays on your calendars!)

Exec: Exec meeting to prepare for 9/9 by email. Then October 6th...
And all future Exec meetings will be brown bag lunch meeting after worship, on the Sunday 8 days before the following Board meeting.

- **Search Fundraiser** (Sept. 28)
- **Leadership retreat** (Nov. 2) (note updated plan in Sept. 9th meeting notes)

Reflections and Closing

Meghan dearest we had a moment of silence where we sent you extra love and hope for your comfort in your treatments.