

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lawrence
Executive Board Regular Meeting Minutes
Aug. 22, 2024 – 7:00 pm – Founders Hall

Our Mission is to love inclusively, nurture spiritual growth and connections,
freely explore life's big questions, and act for justice

Attendance:

Chair: Peter Graham; Chair-elect: Mary Holm (via Zoom); Secretary: Louise Hanson; Treasurer: Brad Wertz; Members-at-large: Jennifer Ball, Bill Hagel; Rev. Nori Rost. A Quorum was established.
Guest: Graham Kreicker

Peter called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. The chalice was lit virtually by Rev. Nori. Brad volunteered as Timekeeper and Jennifer as Process Observer.

Board member check in with Mary remote from Bentonville, AR. Peter commented on the very positive congregational atmosphere as we welcome our new minister and embark on the church year.

“Open question” addressed the issue of what protocols to follow in the conduct of Board meetings. The importance of consensus was emphasized. The basics of both Robert’s Rules and Feminist Rules procedures will be considered at the Board retreat. Mary noted goal of having “actions meet intent.”

The Consent Agenda:

- July 25th Board Minutes.
Mary had amended the Minutes as follows: “Mary will write a charge to the safety policy task force for Board consideration.”
- Treasurer’s Report and Financial Reports.
Financial Policies and Procedures document now complete.
- Minister’s Report.
Rev. Nori provided an oral summary of her report.
- Buildings and Grounds Report. (Not received.)

Graham noted progress on a number of grounds projects.

Brad moved, Jennifer 2nd to approve the Consent Agenda. Unanimous approval.

Business Items:

- Ad Hoc Committee Charge for Security/Risk Mitigation and Fire/Disaster Safety.
Mary has drawn up and posted a draft of the charge to the Safety Committee. The charge separates out various risk management issues.
Peter will recruit members to work on aspects of the Safety Committee charge.
The Board will need to approve the final recommendations of the Committee.
will be reviewed by the Board each July.
- Finance Policies and Procedures.
Document was completed on Aug. 17, 2024. Brad made motion to approve document, Jennifer 2nd; unanimous approval.
There will be three signatories to the Central National bank accounts, except for the Minister’s Caring Fund. The signatories will be the Treasurer and two current members of the Board. Brad made motion to adopt bank signatory policy with three signatories; Jennifer 2nd. Unanimous approval.

Signatories will be reviewed by the Board each July.

- Wednesday night congregational dinners.

It was decided that volunteer teams rotate the organizing of Wednesday dinners with the Board taking responsibility for the first dinner--Taco Night--on Tues., Oct. 8th.

This event will need to be publicized.

- Aesthetics Committee.

The lobby configuration is under review.

The tie-dye banners project is currently being organized.

- Board Retreat and Start-Up weekend planning meeting with committee/team leaders.

Board Retreat date proposed for Sat., Oct. 28, 10:30-3:00.

Meeting date needs to be set for planning the "Get Involved" fair event in early October.

- Reimbursement for employee training time discussion.

Proposal to consider paid reimbursement for employee training time in next budget year as part of professional development budget.

- DRE recruitment planning/search team.

Recruitment process for DRE needs to be developed, including naming the search team. Rev. Nori will call the meeting.

Search should be completed by October 15.

- Sunday morning timing change.

Consensus among all affected parties is the goal in changing start times on Sunday morning: The Program is proposed for 9:30 am; the Service at 11:00 am.

Other Business:

- Debit card transfer.

Rev. Nori's name should be added to account and receive a card. Brad made motion, Mary 2nd to add Rev. Nori to debit card account along with Valerie Roper. Unanimous approval.

- "We Rise Up" Election Night virtual meditation gathering.

UUCL will participate in this election night vigil led by several leaders of different faith communities.

- Minister's Housing allowance.

This is a tax reporting matter. Brad moved and Jennifer seconded a motion to set the amount of \$2,500 per month/\$30,000 per year as the minister's housing allowance. Unanimous approval

Meeting Review:

- Follow Up Assignments were reviewed.
- Timekeeper, Process Observer and Covenant check-in.

Next Board meeting: Thurs., Sept. 26th at 7 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:14 pm.

~ Louise Hanson, Secretary

As Executive Board of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lawrence, we covenant together with mutual trust and support:

- To welcome and practice curiosity, deep listening, and joy
- To share the work that needs to be done
- To cultivate a culture of patience, open communication, and healthy boundaries

- To act for the good of the congregation and speak with one v