*Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lawrence*

**Executive Board Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Jan. 16, 2025 – 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; Secretary: Louise Hanson; Treasurer: Brad Wertz; Members-at-large: Jennifer Ball, Bill Hagel (via Zoom); Rev. Nori Rost

A Quorum was established.

Peter called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm and lit the chalice candle. Timekeeper: Jennifer; Process Observer: Brad; Board member check-in.

Congregational Comments.

 Mary reported that the Aesthetics Team is developing guidelines for displaying art in Founders Hall. The gallery will be dubbed the Northern Light Gallery.

 Rev. Nori initiated a discussion of building rental topics.

“Open question”

 The fact that UUCL is physically distanced from the town of Lawrence continues to prompt the discussion of whether we might provide a more central venue for our congregation in order to increase opportunities for engagement with the community as a whole.

Approval of Consent Agenda

* Minutes of Dec. 18, 2024
* Treasurer’s Report and Financial Reports
* Minister’s Report (to be submitted at a later date)
* Buildings and Grounds Report (no report submitted)

Jennifer moved to accept the Consent Agenda; Mary seconded the motion that was passed unanimously.

**Business Items:**

 The Board-hosted dinner.

 The pasta night dinner scheduled for January 28 was canceled. A later date for the dinner will be considered at a Board dinner on that date.

 Finance Committee and Budget Process.

Rilie Kafer has been working with Mary Holm on stewardship matters. Rilie will prepare slides for the stewardship presentation. Denise will supply necessary data for the presentation.

 Ad Hoc Committees for Security/Risk Mitigation and Fire/Disaster Safety.: follow up.

The Committee will tour the building and consider what actions are advisable. Police and Fire Departments can offer advice. A report should be ready for presentation at the congregational meeting.

 PO Box vs. Hard Mailbox.

The question about the security of our outside mailbox has been raised. Various options were considered. It was decided to have a mailbox on the road site that can be locked. Kristin can order and Building and Grounds people can install.

 Office Hours Discussion.

The expectation is that Kristin will be available during office hours. The hours of opening should be posted on our website. The usefulness of having a video bell installed to facilitate communication between a visitor and the Office Manager was thought to be a benefit.

 Membership certification report to UUS.

The report is due Feb. 6th and is Rev. Nori’s responsibility.

 Homelessness and UUCL’s role.

There is consensus that UUCL needs to develop a homeless response policy. UUA’s policy can serve as a guide. The results of this effort will be shared with the congregation.

 Outreach to UU affiliates.

UUCL continues efforts to affiliate with Topeka and Salina UU congregations and dialog with Rev. Diane Miller and ECM. An update on these discussions is forthcoming.

 Member Emeritus policy.

 The Emeritus status criteria and policy will be reviewed.

**Meeting Review**

Follow-up assignments.

 Timekeeper, Process Observer, and Covenant Check-in.

Next Board Meeting: Thurs., Feb. 20, 2025.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 pm.

 ~ Louise Hanson, Secretary

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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 voice
* To give everyone a chance to speak at the meeting