

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lawrence

Executive Board Regular Meeting Minutes

Feb. 20, 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: (Note: Meeting held via Zoom)

Chair-Elect: Mary Holm, Presiding; Secretary: Louise Hanson; Treasurer: Brad Wertz;
Members-at-large: Jennifer Ball; Rev. Nori Rost

Absent: Chair: Peter Graham; Member-at-large: Bill Hagel

A Quorum was established.

Mary called the meeting to order at 7:11 and lit the chalice candle. Timekeeper: Rev. Nor;
Process Observer: Brad; Board member check-in.

Congregational Comments. (None offered at this meeting.)

“Open question”

There was a brief discussion of our on-going intention to build relationships with other progressive area congregations. Rev. Nori is associated with the Inter-faith Action organization. She commented on the possibility of minister exchanges. Congregation exchanges were also suggested as a possibility. Social Justice rallies were noted as a point of connection.

Approval of Consent Agenda

- Minutes of Jan. 16, 2025
 - Treasurer's Report and Financial Reports
- Jennifer moved to accept the Consent Agenda; Louise seconded; consent was unanimous.

Information Items:

Rental Report.

Kristin reported on changes to building rental policy. Two documents have been developed: a flyer and a contract. Numerous entities rent the building in addition to home-schoolers. Total rental income is \$7225. [See Board Drive for specific information on rentals.] Improving marketability of space is recommended along with the marketing rental opportunity.

Documents available in the Board Drive:

Minister's Report, Building and Grounds Update, Religious Education Report, Stewardship Update. There was a favorable response to the suggestion that the RE report be quarterly rather than monthly.

Action Items:

Mary Holm announced that the Annual Meeting date has been shifted to June 8th. Louise made motion to accept the update; Brad seconded. Unanimous passage.

Policy Update: First reading, Coordination of Services (homeless and other issues).

Supporting unhoused individuals is a meaningful and compassionate way for UUCL to engage with the community. Working in coordination with social service agencies ensures that our efforts are effective and meet the broader needs of those who are unhoused. Working together, the minister and members of the Social Justice Team will research and establish partnerships with local agencies providing services to unhoused individuals.

The congregation will not provide direct services to unhoused individuals without specific action by the Executive Board.

Jennifer suggested that the policy state that members of UUCL will not offer assistance to any individual on the congregation's behalf. [Adoption of the policy will be voted on by the full Board at a later meeting.]

Financial support for Chair and Chair-elect attendance at the UUA General Assembly.

It was suggested that basic expenses be covered by UUCL.

support attendance at UUA GA; seconded by Brad. Approved unanimously.

Go Fund Me thru Faithify—the UUA mechanism for congregational fund-raising.

There was discussion exploring the proposal to set up a Board-approved process for raising funds for social causes. It was suggested that a three-person committee be organized to administer the process. The Social Justice Team would make recommendations and the Board would approve. A benevolence fund would need to be established to distribute the money. Mary volunteered to investigate this matter further. The Board will vote at a later date on a proposed model plan.

Accept donation of wheelchair.

Jennifer moved and Brad seconded a motion to accept the donation. Approval was unanimous.

A note of thanks will be written to the donor.

Meeting Review

Follow-up assignments.

Timekeeper, Process Observer, and Covenant Check-in.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 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