



HIGHLIGHTS

Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis

Volume 58, Issue 7

July 2015

Summer 2015 Proposed Capital Improvement Project Approved

—Dianne Moreau

The 2015 Capital Improvement Project was overwhelmingly approved by the congregation at a Special Congregational Meeting on June 7. This will begin expansion projects by:

- Making the best use of our current space
- Focusing on ADA compliance
- Creating more useful and efficient spaces
- Updating the entire RE area

This current Capital Improvement Project was approved to be funded with up to \$250,000 of the Capital Campaign Funds. The following is a brief itemization of tasks to be completed this summer:

- Install Elevator (likely not completed until the fall)
- Revise current family bathroom to create ADA/gender neutral/family restroom
- Upgrade downstairs group bathrooms
- Repaint lower level
- Replace ceiling tiles
- Repair lighting fixtures
- Replace flooring with carpet tiles
- Install new tile flooring in bathrooms
- Purchase new furniture for children and adults
- Replace lower level windows
- Repaint/seal parking lots
- Repair outside stairs and lower walkway
- Relocate Church Administrator office to upstairs copy room
- Enlarge the Young room meeting space (utilizing current Administrator office space)

The Building Expansion Exploratory Committee (BEEC) will be using Murphy & Dittenhafer Services for limited support such as: drawings required for permit; best use of time management to meet a tight summer schedule; as well as professional advice on materials selection.

BEEC members are working with contractors now to firm up contracts, and finalizing the design process. Major work will not begin until after Camp Beagle, which ends July 17. We are coordinating all efforts with the church staff, especially Rev. Christina for RE items, and the committee that is working on the improved water flow grant project.

In This Issue:

From the Board...	p. 3
Upcoming Services	p. 4
Parking	p. 4
RE News	p. 6
July Events	p. 7
July Calendar	p. 8
Staff Contacts	p. 10

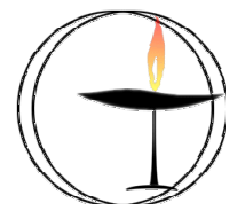
Next Highlights Deadline:
July 15

highlights@uuannapolis.org

For timely updates, visit www.uuannapolis.org and click on "BEEC Updates" in the rotating banner at the top of the page.

BEEC members (Paul Jorgensen, Dianne Moreau, Patti Patterson, Craig Beyler, Juan Berrocal, Diane Ratcliff, and Jan Sprinkel) are very grateful for the support of the congregation in this exciting project.

Contact: beec@uuannapolis.org



(con't)



WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE BELIEVE

At the Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis, we are seekers of the truth.

We invite all persons of every faith, creed, culture and background to engage in a search for truth with us. We believe in the dignity and worth of every human being and in freedom of expression. We welcome and celebrate all people, be they straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender.

We are committed to this church as an institution, to social justice, to liberal religious exploration and education for all ages, to mutual caring and support, and to the value of diversity.

We strive to care about each other and the health of our community and the world. We are an environmentally sensitive, "green" community.

This church is a place of safety for each person's mind, body and spirit. Toward that end, we covenant to affirm and promote: Honesty and authenticity in our relationships; words that are supportive and caring, not belittling or demeaning; a welcoming and non-judgmental attitude; respect for each person's boundaries of mind, body and spirit; and listening to one another.

In order to serve the congregation and the greater community, we also strive to create an environment that challenges, inspires, encourages and supports the quest for religious fulfillment.

Please join us!

Update: Habitat for Humanity Project

Renovation of the house at 123 Clay Street had not been begun as of mid-June due to hazardous materials in the house. However, a contractor has been found who is willing to remove some of these materials without charge, so work on the project should be starting soon. Owner of the home on Clay Street is Shirley Gordon, who visited UUCA on May 3 to tell us something about herself, a very moving experience. UUCA will be partnering with at least seven other churches on the project: St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, St. Anne's Episcopal Church, Ark & Dove Presbyterian, Woods Memorial Presbyterian, St. Paul Lutheran, First Presbyterian Annapolis, and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

The UUCA group organizing work on the project has been focusing their efforts on raising the \$15,000 UUCA has committed to providing to help cover the \$144,700 needed for completion of the work. To date, about \$3900 has been collected. Church members can support the project by stopping at the Habitat table in the narthex to leave a donation. Your donation entitles you to sign a 2x4 framing board that will be used in renovation of the Clay Street house. You can also donate to the Habitat project by purchasing lunch (hamburgers, hotdogs, and veggie burgers, etc.) from the YRUU youth after the services on June 28 and July 26. The food will be served on the walkway between the church and the Fahs House.

If you are interested in contributing or working on this project, please contact Pat Fleearty (pfleearty@hotmail.com).



Photo from a past Habitat build.

You can see lots of candid photos from previous Habitat projects at the Habitat table in the narthex.

FROM THE BOARD
OF TRUSTEES...



Questions or comments for the Board?
Contact Heather Millar, Board Secretary
at board@uuannapolis.org.

On June 7, we held a very important meeting in the sanctuary that turned out to be one of the shortest congregational meetings in the history of our church. In a nearly unanimous vote, we decided to allocate up to \$250,000 for the Capital Improvement Project to modernize some of our existing facilities. This was a very important step.

One reason for the brevity of our congregational meeting was the excellent work done by the Building Expansion Exploratory Committee. BEEC did a remarkable job of engaging the entire congregation in the weeks and months prior to the vote. BEEC surveyed the congregation and held numerous informational meetings, including two Middle Hour sessions as well as meetings with the Collington group, the choir, the Tuesday Lunch Bunch and many others. The congregation was certainly well prepared on June 7 to act on this important initiative.

In an exciting turn of events, it was announced at the congregational meeting that an anonymous "angel" had committed to contribute \$50,000 for the construction activities, but only if other church members were prepared to match this with an additional \$50,000 in new contributions for the Capital Improvement Project. This very generous offer will enable the church to save more of its existing building funds for future expansions. BEEC is currently busily collecting contributions, but we still have a ways to go! To make a contribution, please contact Jan Sprinkel at beec@uuannapolis.org.

Construction activities will start almost immediately and will run through the next three to four months. Needless to say, things are going to be a little crazy at the church for a while, with competing pressures for meeting spaces, parking spots, and even bathrooms! This brings to mind our covenant to treat each other with compassion and respect during this stressful time – and that includes being gentle with our ministerial and our administrative team members, since they are going to be particularly stretched during this time.

When all construction is completed, we will see an improved church facility, and that will be wonderful for all.

What is next in terms of our building? We know that this is not the end of our journey. What are the plans for the building expansion, including the narthex and expanded meeting spaces? What the heck are we going to do about Fahs House? How are we going to finance any of the next steps, since the existing resources available seem to be insufficient for major expansion efforts? What are our financing options: a new pledge drive, a mortgage or a combination of both? And what process will we use to engage the congregation in all of these choices?

These are all good questions, with no solid answers just yet. It is our hope and expectation that our church community will establish mechanisms in the months ahead to engage all of us in discussions and decisions about next big steps. We owe that to each other.

So congratulations to BEEC -- and to all of us -- for coming together on this important new initiative. Let's use our success on this effort to pave the way for future improvements at UUCA.

---Ken Apfel (Board President)



SUNDAY WORSHIP AT UUCA

Sunday, July 5:

“Let Freedom Ring?”

Rev. Fred Muir

This Independence Day Sunday, let us consider religious freedom. It’s quintessential to the U.S. way of life, right? Can anybody really argue against it? “You betcha!” (as a former VP Republican candidate would say). Join me as I take a look at this fundamental liberty that helped shape our faith and nation.

Music by Betsy Kraning.

Sunday, July 12:

“Hitting Rock Bottom”

Rev. Patricia Owen

We all hit it! What can we learn from the dark times we all face? How do we embrace those moments, remain fully present in our communities and grow stronger?

Music by Stan Haavik, Lynn Rose and Louise Huddleston.

Sunday, July 19:

“Finish the Race”

Rev. Patricia Owen

The 1992 Barcelona summer Olympics - a painful moment became a pivotal and inspiring one. Who helps you finish your race?

Music by U3 (Karen Thiemeyer, Laura Flokell, and Ashley Fuchs); hymn accompaniment by Josh Long.

Sunday, July 26:

“Awakening Joy”

Rev. John Crestwell

Join Rev John, Nicole Rumeau, Josh Long and others in an inspiring and uplifting service that will awaken the joy in your life.

Podcasts of weekly sermons are available online at www.uucamd.libsyn.com.



Welcome New Members

The following people signed the Membership Book on June 14. Please welcome them to our community!

Denise David
Leslie De Vries
Diane Nichols
Darrell Abernethy



PARKING!!

You may have noticed some **No Parking signs** along **N. Lawrence Ave.**, which have been placed by the county on the portion of the road that they maintain. In recent weeks, there has been a problem with cars parked along the sides of the road where the signs are now located. We don’t want anyone to be ticketed, so please take care when parking to avoid these areas. You can **[CLICK HERE FOR A PARKING DIAGRAM](#)**, avoid the red ‘X’ areas.

Parking is available in the upper and lower lots in front of the main building, as well as in the Fahs lot and the **OVERFLOW PARKING** located beyond the Fahs lot. While that may be a bit of a hike, consider it exercise and be glad we have this wonderful problem... So many people attending worship that we run out of parking spaces!!

If you have further parking questions, contact the **[Church Office](#)**.



Keeping Our Space Beautiful Committee Report

—Dianne Moreau



What a day of sprucing up we had on Saturday, June 13! Windows were washed-upstairs and down, walls were scrubbed and painted, the kitchen was reorganized and thoroughly cleaned, sanctuary chair stains were erased, the Gallery stair treads were “de-spotted”, and

the list goes on and on.

Contact Dianne Moreau (diannemarie1@comcast.net) if you are interested in helping with future projects.

Dan Moreau touches up the Gallery hall way.



A huge **THANK YOU** to the following people for all their hard work and donation of precious personal time:

Craig Beyler
Emery Clark
Leslie deVries
Carla Diffenderfer
Lisa & Pat Fleeharty
Judy Graham
Anne Hays
Paul Jorgensen
Chris Larragoite
Dan Moreau
Don & Patti Patterson
John Patterson
Al & Jacque Pulsifer
Pat Reagan
Jan Sprinkel
Kristine Steinkoenig
Linda Stein-Patterson
Ray Watkins
Elisha Jones

SHARE-THE-PLATE COLLECTION

The **May** Share-the-Plate raised a total of \$2,635.65 to benefit **Habitat for Humanity**. The **June** collection, for **We Care and Friends**, will be reported in the next issue.

The Share-the-Plate recipient for **July** will be **UUCA's International Partners**, which encompasses three programs:

- Our two **Partner Churches in Transylvania**--Rava and Almas. Four groups from UUCA have visited there, and we have hosted their ministers in Annapolis. We have been enriched by these contacts and will continue to support them as they attend to the needs of our friends and partners in the villages. Our next visit is scheduled for May/June of 2016.

- The **UU United Nations Office**, which strives to affirm and promote every person's human rights on the international stage. The UU-UNO participates in meetings, conferences, and committees at the UN with key bodies such as the Office for Human Rights, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, and the World Bank.

- The **Women's Livelihood Projects** that UUCA pioneered in the Philippines; and the **UU International Women's Convocation** which works to honor International Women's Day by sponsoring leadership training programs in Transylvania, health initiatives in the Khasi Hills of India, a gathering in Bolivia of UU women from South America, and a third International Women's Convocation.

Every Sunday, the plate collection will be divided evenly between the chosen recipient **and** UUCA's operating budget. Therefore, **if you place a check in the offering plate, you must indicate pledge or outreach on the memo line**. If a check is without notation, it will automatically be applied to the plate share. Once the funds have been transferred to the charity, your contribution cannot be reallocated to your pledge. Thank you for your generosity. If you have any questions about Share-the-Plate charities, contact Diane Goforth; dsgoforth@aol.com; for questions about Share-the-Plate policies, contact the Church Office; mreese@uuannapolis.org.



Thank You! Thank You!... And, a Call for Support

Our Religious Exploration (R.E.) program for children and youth is doing great. We have, on average, about 75 kids and youth on any given (regular church year) Sunday. It takes a lot of heads, hearts, and hands to keep our program running smoothly and to offer meaningful and fun activities for our children and youth.

Now that summer is here, we turn our attention to next year... If you are interested in supporting our R.E. program as a volunteer facilitator (leader), assistant, or Coming of Age mentor, please let Rev. Christina know ASAP! (cleonetracy@uuannapolis.org).

We especially need **2 more volunteers to teach our 7th grade OWL program** (values-based sexuality education). Training for OWL teachers is August 21-23 and I need to register you very soon! Please let me know if you'd like to teach OWL.

We also need people to **sign up to lead childcare for ONE Sunday** (both services). Many hands make light work, so the more folks who can help, the less any one person is required to do.

A special thank you to all the 2014-15 Volunteers who made this R.E. year a success!

Nursery: Ethan Jasen, Charlotte Wallace, Tony Pace

Beginner RE: Dianna Sell, Suman Kaba, Anne & Jim Hays, Gwen Schindler

Spirit Play I: Facilitators - Lynn Denis, Merriam Norris, Adam Stribley, Erin Harmon

Assistants - Diane Benner, Alex and Carrie Baquie, Gina Williams, Glynda Cullen

Spirit Play II: Facilitators - Jim Roman, Rob Malone, Rob Whitaker, Denise Wallnofer

Assistants - Linda Mundy, Tony Hipszer, Thora Burkhardt, Ariane Hofstedt (sub.)

URUU: Facilitators - Natasha Hitchcock, Darrel Nash, Michelle Malta, Matt Davis

Assistants - Ariane Hofstedt, Toby Ford, Marty Eгна, John Scott, Lara Lutz

Neighboring Faiths: Jason Kuznicki, Ted Hall, Ashley Fuchs, Beth Stribley, KC Rice

NF Visit Coordinator - Chrissy Perry

OWL: Chad Dillard, Jena Cochrane, Scott Eden, Kristina Korona, LE Gomez

Coming of Age: Co-facilitators - Tricia Hopkins, Steve Haiman, Jim Horstman, Mike Coleman

Coming of Age: Mentors - Sharon Runge, Scott Starin, Jan Bird, Wendi Winters, Dave Blaha, Winters

Geimer, Rob Wallace **COA Mentor to the Mentors** - Pat Fleearty

YRUU Youth Group: Barb Cyr-Roman, Jen and Sean Fahey, John Balano, Sharon Runge

Also, thank you to our RE Staff:

Elise Berrocal, Children's Ministry Coordinator

Michele Reese, Childcare Coordinator & Beginner RE Facilitator

Paul Berry, Youth Coordinator

Deborah Hubbard, Nursery Care Provider





UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit our [online calendar](#) for more events and scheduling information.

Nifty 50+ is holding a patriotic potluck on Saturday, **July 4** at 6:00 PM in the narthex. Please RSVP to Claire Morgen; cfriday@aol.com if you plan to attend.

UU Humanists will meet Monday, **July 6 & 20**, at 6:00 PM for a potluck in the narthex and then discussion of Mark Twain's *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

Contact: Cliff Andrew; neurol@verizon.net.

There are many groups choosing to NOT meet in the summer, including:

- Outdoor Club (July only)**
- Book Club**
- Bridge Club**
- Community Forum**

Regular meetings of these groups will resume in September. Watch our publications or check the church calendar for more information.

Summer RE Classes

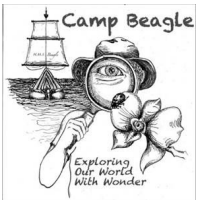
Summer RE is now in full swing, with excellent attendance so far! This summer's theme is "Justice", with the following classes:

We Are Many, We Are One (4-6 year-olds) - celebrating diversity and community. Angebrannt Room

Rainbow Children (7-9 year-olds) - understanding identity and diversity. RE Sanctuary

Race to Justice (10-13 year-olds) - exploring diversity and racial justice. Emerson Room.

YRUU (rising high-school) - discussing, planning and implementing social justice projects of their choice. Brown Room



Camp Beagle is coming soon! Camp dates are **July 13-17**. For questions regarding payments,

contact Michele Reese; mreese@uuannapolis.org For general camp questions, contact Elise Berrocal; eberrocal@uuannapolis.org.

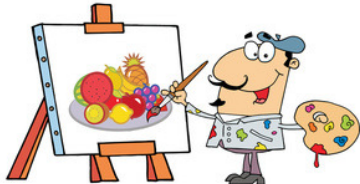
"Fourth Fridays" Concert Series continues on Friday, **July 24** at 8:00 PM, enjoy the **Sara Jones Quartet** with **Swinging Sounds of the Silver Screen** featuring songs curated from cinema's finest works. You'll enjoy pieces composed by Harold Arlen, Johnny Mandel, Michel Legrand and Henry Mancini. Not only is Sara an accomplished jazz vocalist, but you may also recognize her at the UUCA Choir accompanist. Tickets \$15 (at the door only) or purchase a \$60 series ticket good for five performances.

Calling All UU Artists!

Once again, it is time for the annual **Members & Friends** summer art show! Gallery 333 is in need of works to display. If you, or you child, have framed artwork you wish to display (or 3-D art for the display case) please contact Deb Boudra at 4debsart@comcast.net with the following information:

Title of artwork
Media
Framed Cost
Unframed Cost
(or, NFS if not for sale)
along with your name and contact information.

Art will be installed on June 30.




July 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1			1	2	3	4
				7:00 PM Mindfulness Practice Group	7:00 PM Full Moon Women's Celebration	6:00 PM Nifty 50+ Potluck
						
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8:30 AM Intro to Mindfulness	6:00 PM UU Humanists			7:00 PM Mindfulness Practice Group		
10:00 AM Worship/RE						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8:30 AM Intro to Mindfulness	9:00 AM Camp Beagle	9:00 AM Camp Beagle	9:00 AM Camp Beagle	9:00 AM Camp Beagle	9:00 AM Camp Beagle	
10:00 AM Worship/RE				7:00 PM Mindfulness Practice Group		
Camp Beagle Set Up						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8:30 AM Intro to Mindfulness	6:00 PM UU Humanists			7:00 PM Mindfulness Practice Group	8:00 PM Fourth Friday Concert	
10:00 AM Worship/RE						
26	27	28	29	30	31	
8:30 AM Intro to Mindfulness				7:00 PM Mindfulness Practice Group		
10:00 AM Worship/RE						
11:00 AM YRUU Benefit Cookout						



ONGOING EVENTS

Amnesty International: The Annapolis Chapter of Amnesty International meets on the second Sunday of each month at 1:00 PM in the Emerson Room of the Fahs House. All are invited, especially members of the UUCA congregation who believe that one person can make a difference. Come check us out.

Book Club: meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the church library. Contact Jean Gruber 410-216-9575 .

Bridge Club: meets the third Friday each month at 7:30 PM in the Emerson Room of the Fahs House. Contact Anne Hays for information; annehays1933@gmail.com.

Full Circle: meets monthly at 7:00 PM on the Friday night closest to the full moon. An experiential earth-based celebration open to all women over age 18. Contact Jodi Delaney; jodimonkey@verizon.net.

Gallery at 333: The Gallery at 333 is open Mon.-Thurs. from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM and Sundays from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Contact Debbie Boudra; dancindebart@comcast.net.

GLBTQ Group: If you identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, or questioning join us for fun, fellowship, and advocacy. Contact Marie; balanceseeker@comcast.net.

Introduction to Mindfulness and Meditation: Beginner-friendly session every Sunday at 8:30 AM in the Emerson Room. For those who want to learn the basics of meditation and those who just want another opportunity to practice with a group. Contact Phyllis Culham at mpg@uuannapolis.org.

Light House Shelter Meals: If you are interested in helping with meals for the Shelter, contact Carrie Kotcho; 410-451-1844; ckotcho@verizon.net.

Mindfulness Practice Group: meets every Thursday in the sanctuary at 7:00 PM for meditation and dharma discussion. Contact Phyllis Culham at mpg@uuannapolis.org.

Nifty Fifties +: A social group for seniors, that meets periodically for dinners, game nights, and other outings. Contact Claire Morgen at cfriday@aol.com.

Partner Church Ministry: Based upon our common religious principles and ideals, this multigenerational group develops and sustains a relationship between UUCA and the communities of our partner congregations in Transylvania; the Unitarian Church of Homorodalmas (Almas) and the Unitarian Church of Rava. Contact Heather Millar; heathermillar@gmail.com.

Spirit Singers Open to all musicians! Led by co-directors Betsy Kraning and Josh Long, this group provides diverse, intergenerational, multicultural, contemporary music once a month for worship services. Contact Betsy Kraning, Music Director at bkraning@uuannapolis.org.

The Tuesday Noon Brown Bag Lunch & Video Discussion Group: Meets weekly mid-September through May in the narthex. Bring your lunch to eat during the half-hour social time, watch the half-hour *Religion and Ethics* video and join in the half-hour of discussion afterward until 1:30 PM. All are welcome. Led by the intern minister. Contact Phil Tawes; pwtawes@aol.com.

Young Adults: A social group for adults in the "twenty-something" age bracket. Contact Winters Geimer if you are interested; wlgheimer@gmail.com.

UUCA Choir: meets every Wednesday at 7:30 PM early September through May. New members are welcome. Contact Betsy Kraning; bkraning@uuannapolis.org.

UUCA Community Drum Circle: Looking to connect with others in a spiritual yet visceral way? Try the Drum Circle! No musical experience necessary. Meets on the second Monday in the sanctuary and the fourth Tuesday in the Angebrannt room. Both sessions begin at 7:30 PM. Contact Jim Langston at jimlaauu@gmail.com.

UU Legislative Ministry of MD (UULM-MD): UULM-MD is a statewide advocacy network comprised of individual members and affiliated UU congregations. UULM-MD provides a voice in legislative action for UU values, principles and traditions. UUCA provides leadership, resources and support to UULM-MD. Email info@uulmmd.org or call 410-266-8044, ext. 111.

UUCA Outdoor Club: Weather permitting, this club meets monthly for an outdoor excursion. Contact Eloise Hoyt at 410-768-4932 or eloisehoyt@verizon.net.

UU Humanists: Naturalism-Science-Reason-Wonder-Compassion-Community-Respect. Book discussions and film viewings as announced. Meets the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month; 6:00 PM potluck and 7:00 PM discussion; in the narthex. Contact Cliff Andrew at 410-404-7170 or neurol@verizon.net.

UUCA UN Global Justice Committee: Inspired by UU principles, this group is committed to peace, freedom and environmental responsibility and to social, civil, and economic justice. Contact Betty Crowley at 410-897-9417 for locations and times.





HIGHLIGHTS

Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis
333 Dubois Rd. Annapolis MD 21401-2123

Return Service Requested

Dated Material; Please deliver by 6/27/15

Next Issue Deadline: 7/15/15

Next Mailing: 7/28/15

PROFESSIONAL, PROGRAM, AND CHURCH STAFF

Church Office Hours:

Monday -Thursday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM; Sunday 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Closed Friday and Saturday

Phone: 410-266-8044 Fax: 410-266-6910

www.uuannapolis.org

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Email Address</u>
Rev. Dr. Fredric J. Muir	Senior Minister	fmuir@uuannapolis.org
Rev. John T. Crestwell, Jr.	Associate Minister	jcrestwell@uuannapolis.org
Rev. Christina Leone Tracy	Faith Development Minister	cleonetracy@uuannapolis.org
Patricia Owen	Intern Minister	powen@uuannapolis.org
Peter Jacobson	Choir Director	pjacobson@uuannapolis.org
Elizabeth Kraning	Music Director	bkraning@uuannapolis.org
Susan Eckert	Administrator	seckert@uuannapolis.org
Michele Reese	Administrative Assistant	mreese@uuannapolis.org
Elise Berrocal	Children's Ministry Coordinator	eberrocal@uuannapolis.org
Carrie Libowicz	Bookkeeper	treasurer@uuannapolis.org
Paul Berry	Youth Coordinator	pberry@uuannapolis.org
Joshua Long	Director of Contemporary Music	jlong@uuannapolis.org
<u>Board of Trustees</u>		
Ken Apfel	President	
Linda Rhoads	Vice President	
Heather Millar	Secretary	board@uuannapolis.org
Maury Marks	Finance Officer	
Gina Williams	Trustee	
Ale Shiplett	Trustee	
Larry Werner	Trustee	
Tony Hipszer	Nominating Committee Chair	