



Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis
Congregational Meeting - April 7, 2019
Minutes
10:30 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.

Before the meeting began, our “Safe Congregation Covenant” was projected onto the screen for all to read. “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; Listening to one another.”

Rev. John Crestwell opened the meeting with the chalice lighting and opening words. Heather Millar, President, introduced the other members of the 2018-2019 Board: Craig Beyler, Kari Alperovitz-Bichell, Dianne Moreau, Stan Haavk, Rob Malone, Peter Morse, Jane Carrigan, L.E. Gomez, Caryn Jackson and Rev. Kathleen Rolenz. She announced a new procedure for this meeting, the implementation of a Right Relations Team. She introduced Team members: Erin Snell, Gina Williams and Ken Apfel and explained they will be available at the back of the room to hear from members about concerns, issues or topics that members want to bring to our attention. Heather named four ways to contact the Team: written form, text, email, or go speak with them in person. She said the Team will make a brief report at the end of this meeting, not about specific ideas but in general with possible follow up actions that will depend on what is submitted to them.

Marsha Schachtel, Co-Moderator, called the meeting to order. She announced that a quorum of is present. A quorum is 20% of the members or 20% of 362 which is 73; 157 signed in. By raising their voting cards, members adopted the agenda and listed standing rules as published.

Marsha presented the candidates for the Ministerial Search Committee: Cliff Andrew, Craig Beyler, Jan Bird, Dave Burman, Shauntee Daniels, Elise Fleeaharty, Thornell Jones, Karen Murphy-Keddell, Darrel Nash, Gwen Schindler, Mike Wanhatalo and Sean Woolums.

After each candidate was introduced, members marked their printed ballot. Board members collected these and gave them to Rob Malone, chair of the Nominating Committee.

Votes on New Documents:

Heather Millar expressed thanks to the Governance Team members for their 2½ years of dedicated service. She reviewed the previously published amendment process that resulted in the new bylaws that are being proposed today. She then introduced Evelyn Spurgin, Chair of Governance Team, who reviewed key recommendations of the Governance Team that are now incorporated into these new proposed bylaws.

Phyllis Marsh, Co-Moderator, opened the discussion of the motion by the Board to eliminate the current UUCA Constitution, approve the new Bylaws as published 3/22/19 with hard copies available today and approve the Transition Plan as published on 3/24/19 and attached to this agenda. After discussion, members voted yes or no on a card. The motion passed 132 voted yes, 7 voted no and 4 abstained.

Phyllis then introduced a motion by the Board to amend the current Articles of Amendment as published 3/24/19 and attached to this agenda. By raising their voting cards, members voted to approved this motion.

Heather Millar noted that one year ago we voted to support the 8th Principle to accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions. While this was a bold and compassionate move,

“support” is different from “implementation.” The question we must consider is: “What difference has it made?” Take a few minutes to consider the questions on the 8th Principle Activity sheet that is included with your packet; complete the sheet and give it to a Board member. The Board will examine your ideas. Follow up will depend on what is submitted. At a minimum, a summary of ideas will be published in *Highlights*.

Reports:

1. BEEC2: Paul Jorgensen, Chair;

Paul reported that BEEC2 is requesting approval of the expenditure of up to \$30,000 from the Capital Funds account raised during the last Capital Campaign to:

- a. Develop approximately 20 additional informal parking spaces and signage during the summer of 2019 (~\$15,000);
- b. Engage our previous architect to review space programming and create conceptual 3D designs in accordance with BEEC design specifications (~ \$10,000); and
- c. Engage a Civil Engineer to provide preliminary permit drawings for potential new parking spaces and new building locations (~ \$5,000)

Marsha Schachtel stated that there is a motion from the Board for the congregation to approve the expenditure of up to \$30,000 from the Capital Fund for the next steps to include expanded parking and plans for additional meeting and possible living spaces. By raising their voting cards, members voted to approved this motion.

2. Endowment Board: Jackie Heimbuch, Chair

Jackie reported that because the investment balance was less than last year and commitments already made to the Lighthouse, Anne Arundel Connecting Together (ACT) and our transition, the Endowment Board did not post RPF for winter 2019. She reported the recipients of 2018 grants were: Lighthouse, Annapolis Immigration Justice Network (AIJN), Creating Communities, El Huerto La Trinidad – The Trinity Garden and Seeds 4 Success.

Rob Malone, Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the slate of officers for the Board of Trustees:

- President (Term is for 2 years): Heather Millar
- Vice President (Term is for 2 years): Jane Carrigan
- Secretary (Term is for 1 year): Carrie Kotcho
- Finance Officer (Term is for 1 year): Kari Alpervoit-Bichell
- Trustee At-Large (Term is for 2 years): Peter Morse

Phyllis Marsh asked for nominations from the floor; there were none. By raising their voting cards, members voted to approved the slate as presented.

Rob Malone presented the slate for the Nominating Committee: (Terms are for 2 years.):

- Shauntee Daniels
- Jason Hitchcock
- Tracy Gill
- Nancy Eaton
- Nancy Somers

Phyllis Marsh asked for nominations from the floor; there were none. By raising their voting cards, members voted to approved the slate as presented.

Rob Malone introduced the Nominating Committee members to recognize this year’s “Shining Light” to members for their outstanding service to UUCA.

Rob identified the entire Governance Team as worthy of receiving a Shining Light for their extensive work for the past 2½ years, noted the detailed work of Bryan Barrett and presented a Shining Light to Bryan. He introduced Nancy Somers to present a Shining Light to Ginger Parsons. He introduced Tony Hipszer to present a Shining Light to Charlotte Wallace. He introduced Al Pulsifer to present a Shining Light to Charlie Gross.

He introduced Shauntee Daniels to present a Shining Light to Olga Pabon.

He introduced Tracy Gill to present a Shining Light to Lisa Fleeaharty.

The Right Relations Team reported they received concerns about both process and individual conduct and that appropriate follow up will be planned.

Heather Millar thanked all for their participation and cooperation and concluded that there is lots happening and encouraged all to get involved.

Rev. Kathleen Rolenz offered closing words & extinguished the chalice.

The meeting was adjourned.

Information published at the end of the agenda:

STANDING RULES We shall follow Robert's Rules, with these adjustments:

- The amount of time scheduled is adhered to, unless there is a motion to extend.
- Members of the Board will bring microphones to each person who wishes to speak.
- Brevity is encouraged, and no one speaks twice unless all who wish to speak have done so and there is still time available.
- Please trust the moderators to keep to the agenda and bring discussion to a close. "Calling the question" immediately stops debate, and you may not see someone behind you that has not yet been heard.
- There is a Right Relations Team at the back of the room. If you have issues, please text them at: _____, email them at: _____ or go to them and talk with them in person. At the end of our meeting, they will give a brief report about issues that were raised and planned follow up.
- According to the plan published in January, there will be no amendments to the proposed new bylaws from the floor. Only amendments that were submitted by February 18 and not accepted by the Board with the person who suggested the amendment declaring by March 23 that they want the amendment to come to the floor are in order. No amendments have been submitted for the Congregation to consider.
- Nominations from the floor will be accepted for the Board of Trustees and Nominating Committee positions. Nominees must be present and willing to serve or provide verifiable proof of their willingness to serve. According to the plan that was first presented to the congregation in September, there will no nominations from the floor for the Ministerial Search Committee.
- If a YES vote is an obvious majority, it will be so declared without counting hands. Negative votes and abstentions will be counted.

The Vision we developed and then adopted at our 2017 December Congregational Meeting:

At UUCA we value and aspire to:

- Courageously seek authentic relationships across differences
- Move ourselves, our church, and our Earth toward justice, wholeness, connection and love
- Engage in a lifelong journey of learning and spiritual growth
- Practice radical hospitality, acceptance and inclusivity
- Provide a haven for all beliefs and identities that align with UU Principles

We have Three Ends Statements. They are:

1. Faith Development - UUCA creates meaningful opportunities for deepening spirituality for all persons within a safe and challenging environment.
2. Social and Environmental Justice - UUCA's theological and spiritual culture calls us to put our principles into action by creating and supporting systems that address environmental and social injustices.
3. Larger UU Movement - UUCA creates meaningful opportunities that encourage participation and leadership in the larger UU community to promote the growth of Unitarian Universalism.

Attachments:

Agenda that includes the Standing Rules

Right Relations Team Form

Sample ballot for the Ministerial Search Committee

Plan To Suggest Amendments To The UUCA Proposed New Bylaws

Bylaws

Transition Plan

Articles of Amendment

8th Principle Activity Sheet

Power Point Presentation for this Congregational Meeting