

UUCWI Congregational Meeting, June 9, 2019

AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Verify Quorum
3. Announcements / Request for Volunteers (Judy Kaplan)
4. Approve previous meeting Minutes
5. Update to By-Laws, Section 2
 1. Allow the Treasurer to serve three (3) consecutive terms. See attached pdf file.
6. Introduce Officer & Board of Trustees Nominees
7. Officer & Board of Trustees election
8. Introduce Nominating Committee Nominees
9. Nominating Committee election
10. 2019-2020 UUCWI Budget
 1. Introduction, Discussion
 2. Vote to Approve
11. Move to Adjourn

2019 SLATE

Board of Trustees

Toyen Copeland - President (new)

<need bio>

Sandy welch - Vice President (new)

<need bio>

Andrea Fink - Trustee (new)

Born and educated in the industrial belt of the German north, Andrea immigrated to the United States in 1997. She spent the first 8 years in South Dakota, where her two older children attended High School and her youngest son was born. She is married to Werner Grünert, who after years of consulting work moved the family to Washington in 2005.

While taking care of her family was her priority, Andrea gathered some work experience over the years doing project work for Starbucks and Google, volunteering with United Way tax preparation and the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, where her training as an attorney came in handy.

The Fink-Grünert family moved to Whidbey Island recently after having been part time Islanders for five years.

Frances L. Wood - Trustee (new)

I first became a member of a Unitarian Church in 1991, shortly after meeting my husband, Rev. Bill Graves. During the ensuing years I have been involved in several UU churches as both member and in the role of minister's wife. Throughout this time my love for the teachings and practices of this denomination has grown and blossomed. I became a member of UUCWI in 2000.

My educational degrees are in art, teaching and creative writing and my career has spanned many aspects of those disciplines and broadened into corporate project management, training and technical writing. I am the author of five books focused on birdwatching and local history. Recently I published my first novel. My watercolor paintings are available at the Rob Schouten Gallery in Langley.

My passion for wild birds and birdwatching has taken me to many foreign countries where I have taught nature guiding skills, birdwatching and where I have conducted bird surveys. Closer to home, I was co-founder and lead writer for BirdNote, a radio program featuring bird songs and stories that is now aired on stations throughout the country. Over fifteen years ago I began a citizen science study of Whidbey Island's breeding Pigeon Guillemots, black and white seabirds with fire engine red feet. That study is now replicated throughout Puget Sound and into the Straits of Juan de Fuca.

Remmel Nunn - Trustee (new)

Kate and I moved to Whidbey four years ago from New York City where we worked in academic publishing. Both of us are Westerners--I'm from New Mexico, Kate grew up in Seattle--and we had long been hatching an Escape from New York plan. Every summer for twenty years we vacationed off the grid on Puget Sound and I was quickly smitten by the beauty of the land and by the openness and civility of our neighbors. So when our son set off for college we put our plan into action and it has turned out to be best decision we ever made. In a sense, though, we feel it was joining this congregation that completed our journey, offering us the fellowship of kindred spirits and opening up many ways to serve. Participating on this board is one of those ways, and I appreciate the opportunity.

This would be my first experience on a congregational board of trustees, but I have served on several academic boards, and as part of my current job (VP for Publishing at NewsBank, an academic database publisher) I chair a 10-member academic advisory board tasked with compiling a comprehensive history of American journalism. As these boards have focused on deliberation, consensus development and resource allocation they may have given me at least some helpful background.

John Fetrow – Treasurer (continuing)

I have lived on Whidbey Island for about 3 years now, having moved here from Minnesota with my wife, Becky Myrick. We have four amazing grown daughters scattered across the U.S. I grew up on a commercial poultry farm in Maryland. The logo was “Fetrow’s Modern Cage Egg Factory” and our eggs sold at a premium in the Washington DC area because the public saw eggs from hens in cages as superior to eggs from hens on the ground that ate bugs, poop, and each other. Yep, public perceptions do change. I did my undergrad at MIT, veterinary college at the University of Pennsylvania, and an MBA from the Wharton School of Business. I worked

for 40 years on the veterinary college faculty at the U of PA, North Carolina State University, and for the last 26 years at the U of Minnesota's College of Veterinary Medicine. I am a large animal veterinarian. If my cat gets sick, I take it to a vet. I started out by doing general large animal field practice (teaching students who rode along to keep me from making egregious mistakes) and have done all those "James Harriot" style field clinical calls at all hours and in all weather. I gradually specialized more and more in dairy, dairy management, and dairy economics. If you have a sick cow or want to run your dairy farm better, I might be useful to you. I also did some administrative time as well as a Department Chair and as the "Assistant Vice President for Organizational Redesign" across all of the medical schools of the U of MN. Sort of in charge of developing a new overarching administrative structure to make the schools collaborate better. Learned that it is hard to get physicians to listen to nurses, or to anyone for that matter. Worked my way out of that job as we hired competent people to populate the system that was developed and I returned to my veterinary faculty role.

Relevant to the job of the UUCWI Treasurer, I served for 4 years as the treasurer of a Montessori School, including the period when we left the church basement and built our own school. I can do arithmetic. I like spreadsheets.

I have served on the Board for a year now, taking care of the Treasurer's duties, helping with the Long Rang Planning process, and supporting John Long as he led a very successful Stewardship drive. I still don't know everyone's name in the congregation, but I am making progress.

Kate Sheppard - Trustee (continuing)

Kate and her husband Sim moved to Whidbey Island in 2017. She still wakes up every day filled with gratitude to be living in such an incredible place, and to feel such a part of the amazing UUCWI community. Kate longed to find a Unitarian congregation ever since she ditched her Catholic religion of childhood. She describes UUCWI as her spiritual home, and says the warmth, incredible kindness, and love she experiences from the members of UUCWI far overshadow her painful Catholic experiences.

Kate's career is as a nurse practitioner, researcher, and professor of nursing. She is both a Family Nurse Practitioner and Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, and worked for more than 40 years in Emergency Departments, pre-hospital settings, and outpatient centers. Kate's work environment ranged from urban emergency departments where she supervised 100 staff members, to rural hospitals where she directed the ambulance service, the emergency department, the medical aspects of the county fire departments, and directed the paramedic programs. She became increasingly disappointed in health care delivery, with the focus on disease, treatment, technology, time and money, so obtained her Ph.D. in the hopes that she could motivate new nurses and nursing doctoral students to get back to the art of listening to patients! Her research focuses on helping health care professionals and care-giver family members reduce the mental stress and exhaustion that can arise from the role of care-provider.

Kate and Sim met on a volunteer fire department (together they have over 60 years of volunteer service). They loved building or remodeling houses, even doing crazy things like buying a backhoe to build roads and dig the trenches for utilities (their rare arguments typically revolved around which one got to operate the backhoe that day). They raised their family "off the grid" and are passionate about green construction and protecting our planet. They are avid hikers, enjoying anything outdoors, and they look forward to learning to kayak. She is also a rock addict; if you invite her to dinner, hide your beach agates.

Kate feels honored to support UUCWI and its people by serving on the Board of Directors.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

John Long
Dave Cauffman
Lois Chowen