

UUCWI Board Meeting Minutes

Zoom meeting August 14, 2025

All board members were present: Clara Beier, Dee Marion, Don Winebrinner, Toyon Copeland, Lynn Wenzel, Linda Freeburg

We reviewed the minutes of July 10th. Approved by consensus

Report on Financials: Lynn presented several financial reports. We will be contacting those individuals who haven't fulfilled their pledge from 2024-2025, both by email and paper mail (to assure contact is made.) Lynn will check with Stephanie to assure she is not using auction proceeds towards any individual's pledge totals.

Outreach: We now have an Instagram site and an email dedicated to outreach. Please send current photos and content ideas to Linda. She'll be working with Mavis on content and intends to link Facebook and Instagram posts. Nicole (consultant) sent other UUA resources for content and graphics. Linda welcomes ideas for particular outreach board members feel will advance our goals and be appropriate for UUCWI.

Website: Our content needs updating and a more consistent "voice." This is a priority now especially regarding expected traffic to our site by visitors and potential new members and our increased outreach activities. Toyon has talked to Opus and will talk to him again to follow up. We need someone who can work on this – will add to a future board agenda. Mavis has agreed to be one of the resources for this work.

Celebration for Zackrie: The Pastoral Care team has been making plans. Toyon shared some of the planned content: Ken will lead music from postlude directly into celebration. Mark Simpson will read a poem; several speakers will speak for 3-4 minutes. Some levity. Lighthearted singalong. Need someone from the board to say a few words (Toyan or Linda or probably both). Zackrie will also speak. The UUA minister transitions handbook recommends that focus in ministerial goodbye events include appreciation and recognition of accomplishments. This was touched on in the Annual Meeting earlier this year.

Ingathering planning is proceeding: Clara gave us an update. The board will not have a table but can help direct attention and traffic to other tables. Updates and ask for volunteers will be in ENews.

Auction planning is making progress. The auction team is Clara B, John Long, Gaye Simpson, Sarah Heathe, Don Winebrinner, Rimmel, Ken Merril. They have a planning meeting this Sunday. It was suggested they review the most popular and most profitable entries in previous years to identify who to reach out to for donations this year.

Membership: Secret visit by Membership Consultant. Report shared with the board. Everyone is encouraged to read it. Very detailed recommendations for buildings and grounds, accessibility, signage and wayfinding, virtual presence, how to welcome children, etc. Toyan will be the quarterback on this effort because there are so many pieces that affect so much of our committees and members and congregational life- we need one person to oversee this work. To encourage broader shared responsibility for this work and to continue to reduce silos, this could be an ideal focus for the “Leadership Council +”. Clara will talk with Joanna about her ideas for welcoming children and “busy bags” or other kid friendly materials UUCWI may already have. We need to be thoughtful about placement in the sanctuary.

Ministerial Search: We discussed the budget, our capacity for desired compensation, expected days in the pulpit, benefits, search parameters and candidate development, status of UUA congregational profile, and the potential congregational representatives. Toyan will contact one and Linda will contact the other. If either member declines, we have an identified alternate. First search meeting will be scheduled as soon as possible once the congregational representatives are identified.

Congregational Conversation: We have 20 who have said they will attend so far. We’ll have a sign-up table in the sanctuary this Sunday. On the 24th, we’ll use attendees to help set up the tables and the room, and we have suggested discussion prompts from UUA ministerial transitions. Linda will facilitate. Linda and Toyan will create a draft format and facilitated process template and post it on Teams. Meeting is planned for 90 minutes, including small group discussion and report back to the large group. Our intent is to keep

focus generally positive, encourage full participation, and “looking forward.” Lynn will take responsibility for food – Linda will help.

Liaison assignments: We discussed liaison assignment possibilities and agreed on the following.

Don W

Building & Grounds

Clara B

Engagement

Membership

Lynn W

Finance

Stewardship

Linda FF

Nominating (*per Bylaws, to be a non-voting ex officio member*)

DEE M

Library

Music

NCI

Visual Arts (VAC)

Toyen C

Worship

Pastoral Care

Meeting adjourned at 4:12. Next meeting will be in person on September 11th at UUCWI.