

FUUSM Congregational Meeting
April 23, 2023 In Sanctuary & on Zoom

Board President Karen Binkley called the meeting to order at 11:37 am. Karen thanked everyone for attending.

Board Secretary, Nancy Luthy, took a Quorum count. 29 voting members were in the Sanctuary and 3 on Zoom. A quorum (25% of 108 members) of 27 was met.

The Secretary then gave a brief summary of the two Congregational meetings held in 2022. Detailed minutes had been sent to members/friends in the meeting packet.

Suzyn Mills moved to accept the minutes of the April 24, 2022 and the September 18, 2022 meetings. Dawn Hewitt 2nd the motion. The motion passed.

Treasurer, Ted Goertzel, presented the proposed budget via Zoom. The detailed budget had been sent to members/friends in the meeting packet. Gary Hamilton moved to approve the 2023-2024 Budget. Debra Miller 2nd the motion. The motion passed.

The revisions of the FUUSM Bylaws were presented by Tom Cunningham. A complete copy of the revised Bylaws, with rationale, had been sent to members/friends in the meeting packet. Al Tuttle moved to accept the revised Bylaws. Nina 2nd the motion. During discussion, Al moved to amend Article VI – D, sentence 2 (added at end of sentence) to include “or to persons designated by the Board who shall report back to the Board by a specified date.” Martha McGovern 2nd the amendment to the original motion. Motion passed by at least a 2/3 vote of those in attendance. Then, the vote on the original motion was taken. Motion passed by at least a 2/3 vote of those in attendance.

George Banziger presented the slate of Nominees for the Board of Trustees. The two candidates were Robin Bozian and Ron Rees. Rebecca Phillips moved to accept these two candidates. Andrew Clovis 2nd the motion. The motion passed.

George Banziger presented the slate of Nominees for the Board of Trust Governors. The two candidates were Sue Montera and Lloyd Elliot. Cynthia Ting moved to accept these two candidates. Maggie Meyers 2nd the motion.

Discussion “Why two new members to the Board of Trust Governors? I thought just one each year.” Linda Lawton and Gary Hamilton are both going off the Board of Trust Governors. At some point, the rotation may need to be adjusted. The motion was called. The motion passed.

A point of clarification. “Are all of these candidates members of the Society?” YES

Rev. Kat Hawbaker presented her nominee for the Committee on Ministries. Gary Hamilton was the nominee. Diana Bonnell moved to accept Gary Hamilton as a member of the Committee on Ministries. Nina Redd 2nd the motion. The motion passed.

Tom Cunningham addressed the issue of Rev. Kat's Sabbatical beginning in less than 12 months as required in her “Letter of Call.” The Letter states that the Congregation must approve any time change. Martha McGovern shared information about

increased expenses filling the pulpit in Kat's absence. Tom explained that there is

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~\$10,000 in a fund earmarked for Sabbatical expenses. Katy McDaniel moved that Rev. Kat's Sabbatical begin sooner than 12 months. Nina 2nd the motion. The motion passed.

Committee reports were presented orally (in abbreviated form) by Committee Representatives. Complete reports had been sent to members/friends in the meeting packet.

- Board of Trustees – Karen Binkley
- Board of Trust Governors – Linda Lawton (Zoom)
- Buildings and Grounds – Gary Hamilton
- Caring Committee – Chris Hoke
- Chalice Lighter Grant Project – Annie Warmke
- Committee on Ministries – no oral report
- Design and Decorate – no oral report
- Finance Committee – George Banziger

George reported that Ted Goertzel wishes to resign as Treasurer. George had contacted Don Poole, a friend of FUUSM (who attends when in town & pledges regularly) as an interested candidate. Don is qualified and would provide services virtually. The Finance Committee will consider this information and then make a recommendation to the the Board for approval.

- Green Sanctuary – Jim Grecni
- Membership – Elaine Barr
- Plant Sale – Rebecca Phillips
- Social Justice – Andrew Clovis
- Worship and Music – Martha McGovern

Rev. Kat presented information on General Assembly to be held in Pittsburgh this year, June 21 – 25. She reminded the Congregation that the agenda will include a sensitive issue regarding the possible replacement of the 7 UU Principles with a simplified, more visual model. FUUSM does not mandate how our delegates vote.

FUUSM is entitled to 3 delegates, in addition to Rev. Kat.

Tom Cunningham conducted the election of the delegates. Karen Binkley and Rebecca Phillips volunteered to be delegates. There was no third party interested. Suzyn Mills moved to approve these delegates. Martha McGovern 2nd the motion. The motion passed.

The **GRAND FUUSM SERVICE RECOGNITION AWARD** was presented to Dawn Hewitt, “The Church Lady.”

Items for the good of the Society:

1. Darryl Ting: I move that there be special congregational-style meetings specifically for congregational feedback on the minister's performance and specifically excluding the minister's attendance. Second: Nancy Luthy Discussion included support and concern for the motion. There is a need to provide a forum for people to feel safe in identifying their concerns without fear of retribution.

Betsy Kalter expressed concern about how the sensitive issues expressed would be handled.

Ralph Olander questioned what our Bylaws and Procedures said about such a meeting. Other questions included "who would call the meeting and who would preside over the meeting."

The Board will assume responsibility for planning when and how the meetings will be conducted.

The motion was called. A count was taken to verify that we still had a quorum present. A hand count on the motion was taken. The motion passed.

2. Darryl Ting: I move Concretia be removed from the premises. Cynthia Ting 2nd the motion. Discussion: Martha McGovern and Jane Tumas-Serna said that there are plans for the gardens around the patio which may include moving Concretia. Darryl withdrew his motion.

Debra Miller moved for adjournment. Chris Hoke 2nd the motion. Karen thanked everyone for their attention. The meeting adjourned at 1:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Luthy, Secretary