

UUCNH Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes  
June 5, 2022

I. **Chalice Lighting** – Tony Palermo  
“Bring us home to love,” Frances Kozier

II. **Welcome**

President Alex Saksen asked the congregation to

- keep Bernita Clover in our thoughts after the recent deaths of her two brothers
- remember Becky Ridgeway whose smile lit up this room

III. **Vote to approve 2021 Annual Congregational Meeting minutes**

Motion to approve from Sue Broughton, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mary Ellen Johnson  
Unanimous approval.

IV. **Vote to Approve 2022 Mid-Year Congregational Meeting minutes**

Motion to approve from Dennis Doubleday, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mark Draa.  
Unanimous approval.

V. **Vote to Approve Budget**

Presentation by Dennis Doubleday, Finance Committee

Highlights:

- Pledge highest ever, despite fewer pledge units (drop from 120 to 100)
- Reserves from prior years were expended to support budget and fix West Room roof through last 2 years of pandemic.
- Final \$10K of reserves used to support this budget
- Dropping the Fair Share commitment was the only way to balance the budget. (We will pay at least partially if net income improves.)
- Endowment Fund realized an **8%** asset value **decline** from April 30, 2021 to April 30, 2022 (\$375,245 at end of period)

A lively and lengthy discussion ensued regarding the decision on which areas to cut to balance the budget. Suggestions were offered on how to raise more money.

Motion to approve from Dennis Doubleday, 2<sup>nd</sup> John Ritzert

Vote (show of hands):

Yes – 51

No – 4

Abstain - 1

## VI. Vote on Capital Campaign

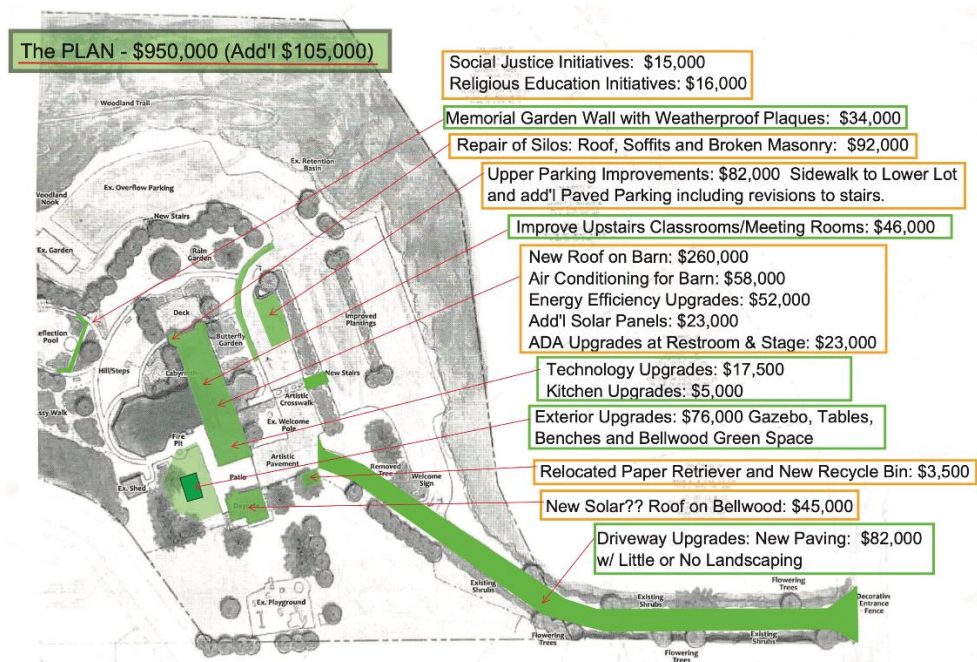
Carol Balance and Joe Meier

CC Committee – Co-Chairs Carol Balance and Joe Meier

Dennis Doubleday, Kathi Finch, Chris Hill, Mary Ellen Johnson, Janet McCall

Discussion of the final plan –\$950,000

The final figures will change since cost estimates are now 4 years old.



Based on the feasibility study he conducted, Barry Finkelstein lists the following **Reasons for Optimism:**

- Intended large gifts including three \$75,000 gifts and 18 gifts of \$10,000 or more
- 12 families indicated motivation to increase intended gifts
- People learning of 18 \$10K+ gifts and the magnitude of the largest gifts
- Responses about important features of the project and concerns
- Potential major givers not included in the study
- People willing to volunteer
- This is an important time and opportunity for Unitarian Universalism and UUCNH
- Several former members are potential supporters

Motion to approve from Marsha Albright, Erin Terrizzi 2nd

Vote by paper ballot

Yes - 60

No - 1

Abstain - 3

**VII. Election of Board Officers**

- a. David Miles, Non-Leadership Track
- b. Erin Terrizzi, Non-Leadership Track
- c. Alison Smith, Leadership Track

**VIII. Election of LDT Members**

- a. Melinda Geiger
- b. Beth Zak

Grateful thanks to those who stepped up to this 3-year commitment.  
There were no additional nominations from the floor.

Motion to approve from Bill McAdams, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cindy Mitchell

Vote by paper ballot

Yes, by overwhelming majority

**IX. Call for New Business - None**

- X. **Special Recognition** – Jen Suehr, incoming president
  - a. *In-Person Gathering Task Force* – Chair, Alex Saksen
    - i. Barb Draa, Connie Ritzert, Carol Watkins, Alyson Zadnik
  - b. *Capital Campaign Team* – (see above)
    - i. All encouraged to get involved and pitch in, not just with money, but with creating “hoopla!”
  - c. *Communications Team* – Chair, Joyce Kepner
    - i. Fred Geiger, Nancy Kepner, Brian Sullivan – new website, focus on others finding us, ongoing work
  - d. *Dick Myers* – acknowledged for his work and care for the Hunger Garden over the years. Involved kid in tending the garden.
  - e. *Tech Team* – Chair Bruce Travers
    - i. Dennis Doubleday, Joyce Kepner, Nancy Kepner. Bill McAdams, Don Nelson, they could use more help!
  
- XI. Alex thanked **departing Board Members**, Beth Zak, Hal Dixler, and Julie Kant and presented them with pottery chalices.

Alex welcomed incoming president, Jen Suehr, and handed over the steering wheel.

Mary Ellen Johnson made the motion to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sandra Akacem.  
Chalice extinguished - “Beannacht (Blessing)” by John O-Donohue