

UUCNH Mid-year Congregational Meeting Minutes

January 21, 2024

12:00pm - 2:00pm

- I. *By building a loving religious community that nourishes the spirit, celebrates life, and cherishes the connectedness of all things, we will transform ourselves and our world.*
- II. **Call to Order** - Alison Smith (1 min)
 - a. The meeting was called to order by Alison Smith at 12:11pm. She reviewed the agenda and procedures for the meeting, including voting procedures.
- III. **Chalice Lighting** - Alison Smith (1 min) - *A Prayer Before Annual Meeting by Christin Green*
 - a. The chalice lighting was read by Alison Smith.
- IV. **Identification of a Quorum** - Erin Terrizzi, Chuck Berry (2 min)
 - a. Erin Terrizzi confirmed that we have quorum and can proceed with the meeting. 68 Members were present and 14 proxies. We needed 37 for quorum.
- V. **Appreciation and Disbandment of the Ministerial Transition and Search Teams** - Rev. Lee Anne, Alison Smith (5 min)
 - a. Rev Lee Anne Washington presented and acknowledged the three teams who played a part bringing her to UUCNH: Congregational Record Search Team, Interviewing Search Team, and Ministerial Transition Team.
 - b. Alison Smith also expressed gratitude and appreciation for these individuals on behalf of the Board of Trustees.
- VI. **Minister's Advisory Team** - Rev. Lee Anne (15 min)
 - a. Rev Lee Anne Washington presented the Minister Advisory Team. All Members presented received a piece of paper on which to write the names of 7 of Members they trust to support Rev. Lee Anne. The Minister Advisory Board will provide a sounding board to Rev Lee Anne.
- VII. **Church Organizational Chart** - Geoff Coleman (5 min)
 - a. Geoff Coleman presented the org chart to the Membership and provided an overview of said chart. He also discussed the Governance Task Force that started the process in 2017. The Org chart was subsequently revised in 2020 and now in 2024.
- VIII. **Rentals Task Force** - Alison Smith (10 min)
 - a. Alison Smith reviewed the charter for the Rental Task Force. Volunteers for the Task Force should have experience in facility management, legal, and/or event

planning. Goals for the task force were also reviewed. Phase 1 recommendations would be due April 1, 2024. A link to the full charter will be included in the enews. Interested participants should contact Alison Smith.

IX. Renaming Proposal - Memorial Garden Committee - (15 min)

- a. Julie Kant and Peggy Trevanion from the Memorial Garden Committee presented a brief history of the Memorial Garden and improvements that have been made over the years. They also presented a proposal to change the name of the Garden. Members were invited to vote on a preferred name, with the understanding that the committee and the Board of Trustees will make the final decision.

X. Introduction, Charge and Initial focus on sharing Article II information - Denominational Affairs Committee (10 min)

- a. Jen Suehr introduced the Denominational Affairs committee as the Past President of UUCNH. Next, Denominational Affairs Committee chair, Connie Hester, presented the Charge, Authority, and Responsibility of the committee. Next, Connie Hester presented a brief overview of the Article II changes and introduced a document the committee compiled to help UUCNH educate themselves on the proposed changes. Finally, she asked for support and volunteers for the committee's work.

XI. Capital Campaign Update - Capital Campaign Committee (15 min)

- a. Joe Meier presented a Capital Campaign update. He thanked the team members and highlighted recent updates, including completing high priority items. Updates are also featured monthly in the eNews.

XII. Ministerial Contract Processes and Timeline, Call Process Task Force - Geoff Coleman, Alison Smith (20 min)

- a. Alison Smith provided an overview of Rev Lee Anne's contract, which expires at the end of July. Alison Smith then reviewed the contract to call the process the UUA recommends, which is two years of contract ministry, but we can speed up the process. Geoff Coleman then walked through the discernment process. Geoff Coleman then presented the vote to proceed with next steps of the discernment process. There were a number of questions and comments from the congregation. The congregation voted to begin the discernment process, but a Task Force needs to be formed to conduct the process itself. Geoff Coleman described the duties of the Task Force. Geoff = motion, Erin = 2nd. 81 yes, 1 abstention.

XIII. New Business - All (10 min)

- a. Alison Smith called for any new business from the floor. No one had any new business.

XIV. Adjournment and chalice extinguishing - Alison Smith (1 min) - *Our Work Has Just Begun by Emily Richard*

- a. Alison Smith read the chalice extinguishing and the meeting was adjourned at

1:48pm.

2023-2024 UUCNH Congregational Goals

1. Foster shared leadership
 - by engaging in learning together,
 - by defining domains of responsibility, and
 - by establishing intentional and more horizontal communication paths.
2. Nurture our families and youth through the revitalization of our youth programming, and multi-generational social opportunities.
3. Welcome new people and connect our community through intentional cohorts that foster dialogue and relationships.
4. Understand and share our identity by exploring and communicating how we are uniquely positioned to meet congregational and community needs.
5. Have more FUN!