

First Universalist Church, Unitarian Universalist  
Auburn, ME  
Board of Directors  
Meeting Minutes  
July 10, 2024  
Bonnie Soper Room

Present: David Das (President) Perron (Vice-President), Linda Greathouse (Clerk via Zoom), Ed Bell (member-at-large), Claire Hebert (member-at-large), John Spruill (member-at-large), Jane Pentheny (member-at-large), Patrick McLaughlin, (minister)

Excused:

Guests: Levesque



*Board Chalice*

**7:00 pm: The meeting was called to order** by David Das, followed by the chalice lighting by Anne.

Jane read the Auburn UU Mission Statement.

Brief sharing was done by those in attendance.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:**

June 5, 2024 minutes: A motion to approve the Board minutes of June 5, 2024 was made by Jane, seconded by Anne, and approved by all.

**Minister's Report:**

Patrick reported he has met with incoming Rev. Terry Sweetser and new DRE Coordinator, Sam McCune and all are ready to "hit the ground running." They are working to determine where new documents will be secured.

Patrick's last day is this coming Sunday, a farewell reception will be held on Friday in the vestry. He thanked the board for being such a good team. The board members wished Patrick well in his future adventure and thanked him for his leadership and guidance this past year.

**President's Report:**

Anne (outgoing President) reported on the following:

Expressed appreciation to the board members for having faith in her and support her over her term as President.

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Building and Grounds leadership is falling to Anne in the upcoming months due to Greg B. being away for family reasons. Items addressed recently include: washing the lobby carpet; a meeting on the sound system with The Music Store in Brunswick, ME, and Zoom capabilities for meetings; physical receipt process for rentals; a neighbor expressed interest in renting the first floor of 159 Pleasant Street (not ready for rental yet); the 159 Pleasant Street sewer issue is now completely fixed to the street where it connects to the city's pipes; a refrigerator is temporarily being allowed in the vestry due to one in the kitchen having issues and refrigeration is needed for the DIC; signage for "no smoking" needs to be placed at the pole to alert smokers of the "20 feet from a building" ordinance; an incident report document has been created by Anne and David and is being utilized to report on and track incidents; DIC issues related to floor fans and radio resolved; the Somali gardeners would like to offer their vegetables for sale on Sunday mornings after services (approved); Anne is coordinating another Building and Grounds workday for Friday 7/12.

David (incoming President) thanked all board members for meeting with him individually about the upcoming year. And he offered a big thanks to Anne for all her efforts during her term as President. Margaret Steward, the contract church administrator, has started, her hours in office are every Thursday from 10-3. David also met with Rev. Terry and he anticipates a smooth transition. Rev. Terry plans on preaching the first 8 Sundays he is with us, 8/4 through 9/28.

**Board Member Communications:**

Anne reported she did some follow up and It's okay to remove personal (donated) items from the bookshelves in the vestry. Items can even be sold and the money donated to Auburn UU.

**Open Session:**

Levesque mentioned the lack of compliance with the smoking ordinance and the need to enforce.

**Discussion and Delegation:**

- 1) Board Charter  
To be discussed in the future (board retreat and beyond)
- 2) Directory Policy  
Questions have been raised regarding who is eligible to receive the members and friends church directory information. There were thoughts

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that if someone is not in the directory they should not receive a copy. Patrick suggested it may be worthwhile to revisit the policies because there is concern that sometimes people are removed and they may not be aware of that. David offered to write something up for the board to review, and it is thought that Terry may have some guidance in this area as well.

3) Future Town Hall

It was suggested that a good topic for an upcoming Town Hall discussion may be to review the designations of committee vs. ministry vs. task force vs. other.

4) Upcoming Board Retreat – Thursday 8/15

Look for materials in future emails with preparation questions to consider and the full agenda.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 PM.**

**Next meeting is Board Retreat scheduled for 8/15/24, 9:30 AM-2:30 PM**

**Next Board Meeting is schedule for Wednesday, 9/11/24 at 7 PM in the Bonnie Soper Meeting Room, all are invited to attend.**

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Greathouse  
Clerk