

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura

Board of Trustees Agenda for Zoom Meeting

Thursday, July 21, 2022 @ 6:30 PM

UUCV Mission

- **Invite connections and diversity**
- **Spark and nurture free journeys of spiritual growth**
- **Reach out to create a more just and loving community, in harmony with nature**

1. Chalice Lighting and Opening Words (Jim)
2. Check-In: Jim read Gudrun's submission with an excellent vocal impression of Nick Williams. Others shared.
3. Agenda: Authorized read-only financial access added. Aesthetics Team possible if time (not addressed)

7:00 time-specific – Time with Kathleen Wheeler, Board Retreat Facilitator

- Kathleen framed the discussion by asking what would be our desired outcomes.
- Members expressed a desire for human interaction, a sense that the board does not hold the big picture, concerns about dormancy among some of our programs/activities, whether we should survey the congregation, how to determine how to assess congregants' sense of engagement, the sense that if the Board delegates functions, it doesn't know what it's about
- Consensus that we want to meet in person for the retreat, at the church campus (or possibly a public space such as a park) and that if we meet at Ralston, we can adapt our space (outdoor sanctuary, Berg Hall) to the transmission factors at the time.
- Jim will send an online poll to narrow down a date and time.
- The recommended format is 6 hours with a lunch break.
- Kathleen received agreement to chat with individual board members in preparation.
- Kathleen and Jim will communicate to refine the format.

4. Consent Items

- Minutes of May 19, 2022, were approved by email.
- Minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting will be approved at Annual Meeting 2023.
- Financials for June 2022 – None available

5. Treasurer's Report: Informational

- Our balances are down \$152,000
 - i. Pledges receivable for 2020-21 down \$25K, decision to write off
 - ii. Need to track down \$50K from account closed and where it went.
 - iii. Investment holdings down in value at present

6. Continuing Business:

- Reopening Decision Making referred to Board
 - i. Protocol for known exposures at services and church gatherings

1. Expect individuals who have attended Sunday service live and subsequently have a positive COVID-19 test result to report to minister and president. Positive individual expected to inform all close contacts; decision will be made whether to send information to full church contact list.
2. If exposure may have occurred at a smaller church-related event, expect the positive individual to inform the minister and president and to contact all participants. General announcement not usually expected.
- ii. Protocols for change in occupancy, masking requirements
 1. We currently require masks in the sanctuary, a caution beyond the recommended status from the county, as is our option.
 2. In general, we follow county guidelines, with extra caution.
 3. Recognize that it is harder to shut back down than it is to open up.
- iii. Need to compile and maintain a comprehensive, current statement of our COVID policies. Cassie and Jim will work on that.

7. New Business:

a. Affiliated Minister Proposal 10/22-3/23

It was moved (Tondro), seconded (Young) and passed unanimously to forward the Affiliated Minister Proposal to the Finance Committee to identify funding for the position. Jim suggested that he would also advise the Personnel Committee, since this proposal is working its way top down.

b. Confirmation of Meeting Times, Modes

- a. We agreed to continue on the third Thursday of the month, from 6:30-8:30, with an affirmative choice if going beyond 8:30. A brief biobreak will be taken at a natural juncture. (This was in the context of Zoom meeting mode. We did not discuss a return to in-person meetings.)

8. Review/Consideration of Past Board Practice

- a. Opening Words: Jim provided opening and closing words for this meeting. Going forward, we will delegate in alphabetical order by first name (excepting that Jim took this meeting): Opening and Closing Words: Alphabetical Order by first name (except that Jim went first): 8, Cassie; 9, Rev. Dana; 10, Gudrun; 11, Ray; 12, Rebeca; 1, Sandy; 2, Xenia; 3, Jim; 4, Cassie; 5, Rev. Dana; 6 Annual Meeting (Rev. Dana)
- b. Minutes Keeping: With enthusiastic thanks, everyone agreed to Sandy's taking digital minutes live, narrowing them down a bit, sharing with Jim for distribution to the Board.
- c. Board Happy Hour: It may not have been the best use of time except for specific topics. Plan to hold such discussions when there is a topic that calls for discussion but does not rise to the level of a Town Hall or Congregational Meeting. Discontinue as a regular practice. However, make public within the congregation the time, date, and Zoom address of online Board meetings. Visitors given a brief period for comment, muted as observers for the meeting.
- d. Board Conversations: Continuing Board members found the conversations with invited group representatives useful. A time-specific period will be helpful. We did not address a procedure for scheduling these invitations.

9. Minister's Report: Rev. Dana on leave – no report

10. Access to Financial Data: It was moved (Tondro), seconded (Young) that the Board Treasurer and the Finance Committee Chair be granted read-only access to the financial holding accounts of the church. Approved unanimously.
11. Information Items: A document from the self-formed Aesthetics Team will/may come forward to the next meeting.
12. Check-out comments
13. Closing words (Jim)