

UUFEC Board Meeting Minutes – Zoom, Monday, May 27, 2025, 6:30 PM

Meeting started by Deborah Baker-Rian at 6:30 pm

In attendance:

Melissa Winn

Denny Lauer

Karen Lauer

Joshua Moore

Ellen Holt

Deborah Baker-Rian

- **Opening Words & Check In**

“Joy frees the mind and fills it with tranquility.” -- Unknown

- **Minutes** from April 28, 2025 meeting (approval needed) – Kal Addams

- Denny motioned to accept the minutes as presented, Ellen seconded. None opposed. Motion passed, minutes accepted.

- **President Update,** Deborah Baker-Rian

- Met briefly with current RE Committee members.
- Took Board Electronic vote to add 2 new Standing Committees to our Bylaws. Vote to add the Caring and Social Justice Committees to Article 7.1 (Approved; Bylaws revision needed later.)
- De-briefed with Steve Harris-Dixon to update on his Chair actions & policies for our Communications & Membership Committees; saved his document to UUFEC Google Drive.
 - Denny asked for Steve's documentation. Kal mentioned that he has a drive that contains the minutes, as well. Deborah will send Kal, Denny, and Karen Steve's document.
 - Karen has a possibly not current list and duties for membership chair. Karen will compare the two.
 - Denny has instituted a semi-permanent calendar for greeters.
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- Met with Reverend Kathy Hurt (Zoom) about UUFEC leadership; emailed her my spreadsheet on committee contacts, etc.
- Continue to contact & invite new members and chairs for our Caring, Communication, and Membership Committees.

- Discussed with Jane Park new member joining procedures.
- **Vice President Update, Melissa Winn**
 - Congregational announcement of committee chair vacancies; E-News & Wick announcements
 - “Member Reflections & New Members Welcome” service, June 22nd.
 - Karen has the old member packets for this ceremony.
 - Existing members will speak on their experience as members
 - The board will co-create a slideshow for the service. Melissa will put it all together.
 - Starting a potential UUFECC CUUPS Chapter (Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans)
 - Denny said that traditionally it would just need the approval of the president to move forward, then CUUPS would need to meet any UUA requirements.
 - Last Sunday, the exploratory meeting attendees agreed that they would like to clear the space behind the church back patio as a ritual space next weekend.
 - Deborah created the committee and approved the clearing of the space for such rituals.
 - Checking into how to do a ramp to make the space wheelchair accessible.
 - Blake Farley helped with photos for membership previously, Melissa will reach out to them.
 - Other actions
- **Treasurer Update, Denny Lauer**
 - Finance Committee report on 2025 pledging & non-pledging members. (Board action needed after June 15 to remove non-pledging members.)
 - 2025 Budget update
 - We have 25% of our pledge income already made. We made over our \$117k goal for pledges.
 - Denny will be checking on our two CDs and will be managing them based on available rates.
 - We have too much in checking right now, so we'll be buying another \$20k in CDs next week.
 - The last FNB checking account has now been closed. All moved over to Synovus, now.
 - We have 67 active members who have pledged (48 pledging units). We have one single unit that has not pledged since before Covid, and the finance committee is drafting a letter to send to the family to let them know that they will be dropped. Deborah motioned to send the unit a letter regarding their termination, Kal seconded the motion. None opposed. Motion carries and the letter will be sent to them by mail.

● Other Standing Committee Reports

- Religious Education (Josh Moore)
 - Holly and Josh are working together very well in RE.
 - Kids are excited about coming, some parents come specifically for our RE.
 - RE has introduced an optional meditation and singing, and the kids have really responded to it.
 - They have created the atmosphere of a mini-service for the kids' program.
 - Josh is focusing on passing along wisdom on how to deal with daily issues in life and managing relationships.
 - Josh wants to spend about a month on each religion, possibly in collaboration with CUUPS.
 - Karen brought up how much her kids enjoyed going to conferences and asked about using curriculum from UUA. UUA is sunsetting the Tapestry of Faith curriculum.
- Religious Services (written report, Amanda P)
- Membership & Communication – (Deborah BR temp; active search for new committee chairs.) - will be working on the policies for these two committees for the next few months while we look for new chairs
 - Members can talk to Karen in the interim for membership issues.
- Social Justice (written report, Jane Park) - Board agrees to move forward with Period Pantry.

● Old Business

- Discuss UUFEF Membership book and our plan for a membership service to welcome new members to join UUFEF.
- Kal Addams & Josh Moore will attend UUA GA as virtual delegates for UUA General Assembly, June 18-22, 2025, Baltimore, MD. They will attend and give our congregation a 2025 GA report at a future service.

● New Business

- Discuss updating Membership list for UUFEF & UUA. Who and how?
- Appointed Jane Park as Chair of “Special Projects” Committee. She will work on our new member joining procedures/policies with current potential members before June 22.
- Begin planning October congregational meeting where we will elect 2026 Board members. Discuss filling vacant Board seat. (Steve Harris-Dixon resignation). Set up a Nominating Committee in June. Current Board members who may commit to another year term? (Committed: Deborah & Kal, and Ellen)

- We need a new treasurer. Denny is committed through December or until we find a new treasurer.
 - Denny recommends that the board vote on how many at-large members to add and then filling those new member positions.
 - We should begin asking for 2026 Board member nominations in E-News announcements starting June 1st.
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- **Next UUFEC Board meeting, Monday, June 23, 2025, 6:30 PM, Zoom**
 - **Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm**