

The Community Church of Chapel Hill Unitarian Universalist
 Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda
 March 12, 2024
 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

The Gathering Room

MINUTES

Board Member of the Month: Dawn Carter

Meeting Roster	
Members Present:	Mary Beth Powell (President), Dawn Carter (Vice President), Glenn Davis (Past President), Kevin Bastian (member), Deborah Day (member), Jay Johnson (member), DeeDee Lavinder (member), Ellie Speh (member), Briton Bieze (member)
Ex Officio:	Rev. Thom Belote (COS/Minister), Brian Pence (Secretary), Chris Speh (Assistant Treasurer)
Insch Leadership Fellows:	Rina Lavinder; Rose Graysmith
Guests:	Mary Hulett, Merry-K Moss
Absent:	Jenn Kapranov (Intern Minister), Andrew Wright (Treasurer)

Item	Presenter	Time
Chalice lighting/Opening Reading	Dawn Carter	7:00 - 7:05
Welcome and Check-in	Mary Beth Powell/all	7:05 – 7:15

<u>Consent Agenda</u>	Mary Beth Powell	7:15 – 7:20
Approval of Agenda		
Approval of February minutes		
Approval of Minister's Report		

<u>Action Items</u>		
Approve Consent Agenda	All	7:20 – 7:25

Motion to approve consent agenda moved by Glenn, seconded by Kevin, motion passed.

Discussion and Planning

Immigrant Justice Initiative Update -	Merry K Moos	7:25 – 7:40
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Formed in 2017.

First guest in 2019.

Short term and long term housing to a range of people. Contacted by a range of partners about new guests.

Short term work primarily with refugees supported by agencies.

Principal work is with immigrant families who are seeking asylum with wide ranging needs, no resources, and history of trauma.

Work to find lawyers to work with them through the asylum process. Work permits. Other agencies.

Long term commitment that lasts beyond residence in the Manse.

Many many volunteers and volunteer hours.

Manse is central to IJI work to provide housing.

Support from church operational budget is critical.

Where do guests go after leaving Manse?

- **One family earned / saved enough to rent townhouse.**
- **Another is now living with family. Still providing some support.**
- **A third is earning enough to rent her own apartment.**
- **All continue to receive a great deal of support from IJI – some financial but much more in other ways.**

Guests not from Latin America? Translation challenges?

- One Afghani family – translation was a challenge.
- One Syrian woman – spoke English well.

Substantial donation of pro bono dental and medical care from various providers.

Operation of Manse (utilities, maintenance) paid from operational budget of church.

IJI receiving calls from Orange County about use of Manse – recognized as leader.

Always a need for more Spanish speakers as translators!

Digital and Electronic File Storage and Migration	(Move to April agenda)	7:40 – 7:45
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Deferred to next month

Board Retreat Scheduling and Agenda – April 13 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Mary Beth Powell/Glenn Davis	7:45 – 7:55
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Largely focused on Strategic Planning

Updates with Q&A

Strategic Planning Update	Glenn Davis	7:55 - 8:05
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Strategic Planning Committee will have had retreat a week before Board retreat. Board retreat will focus on strategic planning.

Strategic Planning Committee members have been completing homework related to Strategic Planning data.

Circulated: Two one-page documents. Summary of points pertinent to strategic planning; Church policy on Strategic Planning.

Community Day of Service update – Charles House	Glenn Davis/all	8:05 - 8:10
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Great team for BOT service project – team of 15 or so, lots of work done at Charles House. Music organization project.

18 project, 250 volunteers. Pictures gathered and posted on church website.

Future recommendations: No rain date. Would have been very difficult to reschedule most of these projects, and many could have gone on rain or shine.

Estimated budget of \$1,500, only spent \$868. Food, decorations, child care.

**Very successful!! Positive experience.
Great job building excitement in weeks leading up.**

Signage Committee Update

Ellie Speh

8:10 – 8:15

Originally selected contractor has not met expectations with respect to Town permitting process and has agreed to give refund minus design work fee.

Path to securing Town permit unclear.

Standing Committees update

Glenn Davis/Mary Beth Powell

8:15 – 8:20

Nominating Committee: Debbie Davis and Barb Chapman 2024-2026

Finance: Deborah Day, Andrew Wright, Chris Speh

Pledge Drive: Briton Briese

HR: Jay Johnson

Stewardship: Briton Briese

Endowment: Glenn Davis.

Webmaster: DeeDee Lavinder.

Governance: Vice President is chair.

Strategic Planning Committee: Past President is chair, Vice President is member, President is ex officio.

Stewardship Update

Bonnie Nelson

8:20 – 8:30

Last year: Total pledge was \$675,000 from 327 pledges. Budget based on \$650,000.

Goal for this year: \$725,000.

This year: Two-thirds of members responded by March 3rd. At 80% of goal currently. Amount raised to date: \$615,909. Many members increased their pledges.

In outreach phase to those who have not pledged. Outreach from staff, Bonnie depending on person.

Funding increase priorities for 2024-25 budget

- **Increase utilities**
- **Increase maintenance reserves**

- Decrease budgeted deficit
- Cost of living increase for staff
- Wage rate increase for youth staff
- Additional professional development funds for Marion and Kat
- Additional hours for Kat to allow Marion a mini-sabbatical

What about Manse? Brad's proposal for needed improvements.

- That will come from maintenance reserves over next ten years.

Does church pay taxes on pledges received?

- No.
- Church does pay tax on Mon-Fri 9-5 parking lot income – but not on after-hours special events parking.

Endowment Committee Update

Glenn Davis

8:30 – 8:40

No meeting since last report to BOT.

charlie kast funds (Mark Ewert)

Glenn Davis

8:40 - 8:45

Plan is still to share current draft with Mark Ewert, pending. Will come back to Board for further discussion.

UUA relations and upcoming GA

Thom Belote

8:45 – 8:50

For first time apart from 2020 and 2021, General Assembly will be entirely online.

June 20-23.

Attending business parts and voting is free (donation requested). Schedule of business has been posted publicly but not all times finalized.

Worship services, lectures, workshops: Registration is \$280 till 3/15, ~\$315 through April 1, \$400 thereafter.

Our congregation can send 10 voting delegates in addition to Thom, Marion, Kat.

Main item of business is revision to Article 2 (new language replacing Seven Principles).

Last year, BOT defined policy for selection of voting delegates in case there was more interest than slots.

Why online?

- Unclear. But generally, hosting conferences is becoming increasingly expensive and substantial effort.

Rev. Thom will put an item in the newsletter inviting requests to be named a voting delegate.

Congregational Meeting – June 9th

Mary Beth Powell

flex

Report on Strategic Planning.

Endowment committee report, treasurer's report.

Hope for congregation to consider 8th Principle. Plans for engagement process in development.

Reflections and Meeting Evaluation

Group

tbd

Plus

- Valuable IJI update
- Nice to have visitors presenting
- Excited about GA and our church leaning in to its voting rights
- Appreciated suggestion to each introduce by name
- Appreciated check-in
- Great room temperature tonight! (According to some.)
- Appreciation for snacks!
- Great relaxed positive energy throughout meeting, cheering each other on

Delta

- Consider re-introducing name cards
- IJI presentation was a great reminder that having other groups come to present is likely to be valuable
- Consider re-introducing BOT name tags for church service? Used to be indicated, not done currently.

Review of To-Do Items

Brian Pence

tbd

- **Rev. Thom will put an item in the newsletter inviting requests to be named a voting delegate. DeeDee will serve as point of contact for those interested.**
- **Glenn to update GA delegate selection policy for this year**
- **Mary Beth to finalize committee assignment list**
- **Mary Beth to check in with Rachel about BOT name tags for Sunday service**

- **Glenn will ensure that charlie kast proposal is ready for April agenda**

Chalice Extinguishing

Dawn Carter

brief

Attachments:

March 12, 2024, Agenda
Minutes February 13, 2024
March Minister's Report
Board policies re strategic planning
The truth about strategic plans