

Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley

Congregational Meeting

February 12, 2023

(In-person and by Zoom video conference)

MINUTES – Approved

Call to Order and Determination of the Presence of a Quorum

President Beth Pollard called the meeting to order at 12:40PM and said that 50 people were required for a quorum. A presence of quorum was established (19 people on Zoom and 74 people in the sanctuary). Cordell Sloan did the chalice lighting and Beth Pollard did the chalice reading (the UUCB Board of Trustee's Widening the Circle of Concern Statement), followed by the covenant read by Dave Roberts, and the land acknowledgment read by Elaine Miller.

Action Items:

Consent Agenda/Action Items:

- a. Adoption of the Agenda
- b. Approval of the Congregational Meeting Minutes of May 22, 2022
- c. Ratification of actions during Congregational Meetings held via Zoom video conference in 2020, 2021 and 2022, prior to bylaws change

A motion to adopt the consent agenda (moved by Alice Lemieux, seconded by Tom Tripp) carried.

Presentation of Flaming Chalice Awards for extraordinary service (announced by Helen Tinsley Jones)

Victoria Bowen presented the award to Selene Fabiano

Ariel Iyer-Smith presented the award to Alice Lemieux

David Rosales presented the award to Greg Lemieux

Larry Nagel presented the award to Cordell Sloan

Stewardship Committee Report

The Stewardship Committee, chaired by Selene Fabiano, announced "Building a New Way" as this year's campaign theme. They shared some of the important items that pledges support. The pledge will run from March 5 – March 26. The pledge goal is \$520,000.

Appreciation to Major Capital Donation

Jane Lundin, Dean Flint, Grace Ulp, Dave & Gail Roberts were honored and appreciated for their very generous targeted donations for major capital projects. Jane Lundin was noted for her generosity and advocacy in getting a ramp built in the sanctuary.

Beth Pollard announced another very generous contribution to UUCB: Jane Lundin is donating a 2-bedroom house in El Cerrito to be used as a parsonage for a UUCB minister or as a rental property if the minister doesn't choose to live there.

A special Board Meeting has been scheduled for February 22nd to discuss details regarding the parsonage donation.

Ministerial Search Committee Report

Members of the MSC gave a presentation that included an overview of the work they've done thus far and the status of the search. They are currently in the process of getting to know 3 of the top candidates and will be hearing them preach in a neutral pulpit. They will chose a finalist candidate in April. The complete report can be found here: https://uucb.org/download/1606/2023-02-12/105160/msc-report-congregational-meeting_021223_final.pdf.

Dates to keep in mind:

Sunday April 30– Candidate will preach at UUCB

May 1 – May 7th (Candidating Week): There will be many activities to get to know the candidate

Sunday May 7th – Candidate will preach at UUCB again. Congregation will vote

Endowment Capital Projects Oversight Committee Report

Tom Tripp presented a slide presentation from the Endowment Oversight Committee, describing completed capital projects. The complete written report can be found here:

<https://uucb.org/download/1606/2023-02-12/105161/endowment-capital-projects-report-2-12-23.pdf>.

Status update on the Freestone property process by Rev. Michelle

Rev. Michelle reviewed the work done by the congregation regarding has done regarding Freestone since 1/1/2022. The process was paused in October when Sonoma County said they would give us info on how our property can be used. There have been many delays in getting a response from Sonoma County. Rev. Michelle recently asked Sonoma County for a timeline and to send her whatever information they have at the moment so the congregation can move forward.

Recognition

Board President Beth Pollard expressed gratitude, love and respect to outgoing Board of Trustees members Dave Roberts, Elaine Miller and outgoing Treasurer Lenore Ralston.

Election

Helen Tinsley-Jones, chair of the Nominating Committee, thanked the Nominating Committee members for their service: Victoria Bowen, Lynne Cahoon, Dayana Claghorn, Robin Cooper, Selene Fabiano, Max Jenny and Terry Stokes. Board President Beth Pollard announced that Helen Tinsley-Jones was reelected for a second three-year term, and Kay Fairwell and David Rosales were elected for three-year terms.

Installation, Benediction, and Adjournment

Rev. Michelle Collins installed the 2023-24 Board of Trustees

Respectfully submitted,

Selene Fabiano, Secretary