

Minutes of the 2022 Spring Congregational Meeting: June 5, 2022

Forum: Hybrid: In-person and Zoom meeting

Board of Trustees President Darcy Pollock convened the meeting at 11:32.

1. Darcy gave an update on the ministerial search for a contract replacement for Rev. Israel. Randy Newswanger and Stephanie Santiago, both on the Committee on the Ministry, will join her and Fred Foster-Cark in the search. UUA's Keith Kron is assisting with the search effort.

2. Because of the building's closure until May, twelve new members have not met the 60-day minimum membership requirement to vote at Congregational meetings. **Evie Pendleton moved and George Keregyarto seconded that the 60-day minimum be suspended for the new members to vote in the Spring meeting. The in-person vote was unanimous for the suspension; among Zoom members, 30 were in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstained.**

3. Two elections were held for Board and Leadership Development Committee members:

- The three Board of Trustee candidates elected are: Carol Campbell (for a second term); Darcy Pollock (for a second term); and Steve Jones (for a first term).
- The three LDC candidates selected are: Carole LeCato; Carol Lieber; and George Herr-Riser.

4. Treasurer Jonas Kauffman reviewed the proposed 2022-2023 budget and lauded John Snyder and Evie Pendleton for "their vast amount of work" as Financial Advisory Committee members. He fielded congregants' questions and comments about the \$430,383 document. **Mike Ziegler moved and David Dobbins seconded that the proposed 2022-2023 budget be adopted. The in-person vote to adopt was unanimous; the Zoom vote had 27 yeas, no nays, and 3 abstentions.**

5. The issue of replacing the church pews with moveable chairs, introduced at the May 15th Town Hall, generated the most lengthy discussion of the meeting. Congregants debated two parts of the issue: 1) is there a majority desire to replace? and 2) how should a replacement be funded outside the budget? **Linda Dobbins moved and Carol Repici seconded that UUCL should move forward and replace the pews.**

In subsequent discussion of the motion, comments and questions about *whether* to replace ranged from saving the pews for their historical value, the need for accommodating attenders with mobility and orthopedic issues, potentially-reduced seating capacity, and making a significant change before a new minister is in place. Comments about *funding a large expenditure not already budgeted* ranged from the estimated cost (and associated flooring changes) to providing a nest egg for expensive emergency needs such as a new roof. Because of the many facets of the issue that need more exploration, **Norm Saunders moved and Evie Pendleton seconded that a**

vote on the motion be postponed until more information about funding and congregant support is available. The majority of in-person congregants voted to postpone. Among the Zoom voters, 25 voted to postpone, and 4 to move forward.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Chappell, Secretary

APPROVED