

Minutes of the 2021 Fall 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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