

**First Unitarian Universalist Church  
Board of Trustees  
Minutes  
December 19, 2018**

With love at the center the vision of First Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbus is to transform and heal ourselves and our world through reason and love.

The mission of this church is to fulfill its vision by...  
 Creating community through caring, nurturing, and celebrating  
 Working for justice through learning, reflecting, and doing  
 Engaging diversity through welcoming, listening, and empowering

<b>Board</b>		Present	Absent
Chair	Seth Kraut	X	
Vice Chair	Allie Bonsteel	X	
Treasurer	Jeff Boughton	X	
Secretary	Greg Denby	X	
	Jim Conlan	X	
	Carolee Noonan	X	
	Larry Drake		X
Youth Rep	Jhalez Caldwell-Craig		X
Youth Rep	Lilly Colegrove		X
<b>Staff</b>			
Sr Minister	Rev. Marian Stewart	X	
Assoc. Minister	Rev. Eric Meter	X	
Minister of Religious Education	Elizabeth Mount	X	
Administrator	Brian Hagemann	X	
<b>Guest</b>			
	Judy Kleen	X	

7:00	Opening and Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chalice lighting and Opening words Words from <b>Be the Change</b></li> <li>● Check-in</li> <li>● Circulate thank you cards</li> </ul>	Seth
7:05	Consent Agenda (Shared Drive) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Minutes</li> <li>● Allie suggested one change to the November minutes.</li> <li>● Staff Reports RE is going well, though we need a deeper pool of teachers.</li> </ul>	Seth  Elizabeth

	<p>The kids made holiday ornaments for the RE teachers.</p> <p>Marian will meet with a tax attorney to verify that everything is in place for the benevolence fund.</p> <p>Christine Davidson has been hired part time to help identify requirements and create a position description for a Congregational Life Coordinator.</p>	Marian
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7:20	<p>Finance Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jeff will provide a detailed financial report in January. First UU still needs an assistant treasurer. Carolee will assist in identifying potential assistant treasurer candidates. That led to a discussion of who might replace Jeff as Treasurer.</li> <li>• Jeff agreed to serve as assistant treasurer next year to mentor the new treasurer when that individual is identified.</li> </ul>	Jeff
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7:40	<p>Elizabeth is requesting that First UU ordain her. There are currently funds available for the ordination event left over from her relocation allowance. She is hoping to have the ordination in late spring. Carolee moved to put this on the agenda for the January Congregational Meeting. Jim seconded. The Board voted to submit a motion to the congregation at the congregational meeting. The congregation votes on ordination.</p>	Elizabeth
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7:50	<p>Seth led a discussion about the board's responses to Morgan Patton's letter. The board is responsible for adjudicating the complaint filed by Morgan against Marian. Carolee asked questions about how we would actually judge the complaint. There was agreement that Morgan's resignation of her church membership ended the formal complaint.</p> <p>Jim asked how we as board members should respond to congregants who ask about the letter.</p> <p>The board will write a letter to Morgan accepting her resignation and wishing her well. The board and ministers will send a letter to the congregation addressing the information in Morgan's letter. There will be a Community Conversation open to the congregation scheduled on January 4 to answer any questions about the situation.</p> <p>The board will provide feedback to the regional UUA staff that assisted with this situation and express our dissatisfaction with their assistance and judgement related to Morgan's accusations and the negative information she shared.</p> <p>We will also try to schedule a meeting with Sunshine and Renee on February 6 to discuss the UUA's role in the conflict.</p> <p>Judy discussed the role of the search committee, especially that confidentiality is still in force.</p>	<p>Seth</p> <p>Judy</p>
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<p>8:40</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Town Halls</li> </ul> <p>The Nominating Committee will participate in the January town halls. The True Colors survey will be offered to everyone who attends. Stewardship and hospitality will be upcoming subjects for Town Halls. Stewardship will be explored in February. Greg will facilitate.</p>	<p>Seth</p>
<p>8:45</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Changes to the church constitution</li> </ul> <p>The final version is now posted on the website. Carolee will review and verify that all correct changes have been made. Allie moved to recommend the following changes – moderator term from 1-2, Jim seconded. Motion to modify the covenant of respectful relations the last sentence should be changed from Conflict resolution policy to respectful relations and disruptive behavior policy. Both motions passed unanimously.</p>	<p>Carolee</p>
<p>8:55</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mid-year meeting</li> </ul> <p>Seth will finalize the agenda. Subjects will include the Benevolence Fund. The board and Marian will seek a recognition of First UU's ongoing current Sanctuary efforts, including our support of Edith Espinal, our staffing of the table at the ICE office, and various other activities. We will outline the potential for facilities upgrades so that housing a sanctuary person would be possible using some funds from recent donations.</p>	<p>Seth</p>
<p>9:15</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Wrap up</li> </ul> <p>The board will send thank you cards to search committee members for their participation in efforts to resolve Margan's complaints.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned.</p>	<p>Seth</p>