

**First Unitarian Universalist Church
Board of Trustees Meeting
Minutes
February 24, 2021**

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

Meeting practices

- Come prepared, having read reports and the agenda
- Submit questions in advance for inclusion on the agenda
- Items not addressed in the meeting will be handled in email (if time-sensitive) or appear at the top of next month's agenda
- If this process isn't working for you, speak up so we can make adjustments
- Attend meetings as if you had to drive home afterwards--we are empowered to make decisions with legal and financial implications, and we all need to be of sound mind as we make them.

Present: Board Members: Lisa Brandt (Chair), Greg Denby, Don Jones, Seth Kraut, and Jan Phillips (Secretary), Absent: Heidi Ballard; Youth Reps: Teddy Davidson and Caroline Mocharski. Also present: Staff: Rev. Marian Stewart, Kelli McNeal, Amber Scott, and Brian Hagemann; Treasurer: Laura Hartman; Moderator: Karen Dawson.

Time	Topic	Responsible
7:00	Opening and Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Chalice lighting and opening words● Check-in: How are you?	Greg
7:15	Centering question:	All
	Consent agenda: Please see documents in Board of Trustees Shared Drive <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Approve January minutes● Approve Seth Kraut returning to the board to finish Allie Bonsteel's term (done via email vote)	

<p>7:30</p>	<p>Board membership change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Welcoming Seth ● Board self-evaluation and reflection process is planned for June--do we need to do something sooner? <p>The question was posed whether we are getting and fielding concerns from leaders before they are at the point of having/wanting to step away. We need to explore how we can adequately prepare volunteers for the time, responsibilities, and other aspects of the volunteer positions they are taking on. We need to make sure there are opportunities for people to be heard and cultivate a culture of people sharing. We need to give ourselves pause. Marian, Isabel, and Lisa will continue this conversation and we will also talk about this more at the retreat this weekend.</p>	<p>Lisa</p>
<p>7:40</p>	<p>Reopening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Decision-making processes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What is the role of the board vs. the role of the staff and/or CT? ○ Do we need a task force modification/extension? <p>The Reopening Task Force, with its presentation at last the February 14th Mid-Year Meeting has completed its work. It was determined that we need an Implementation Task Force. Lisa will ask if David Carr is willing to lead this and ask him to invite other members of the Reopening Task Force to be part of it. Its role: to develop the logistics for reopening, including cleaning instructions, how many vacant seats between folks, small group size, etc. Staff's role in reopening is to determine the content, i.e. services, etc. It will come to the Board for a vote when we reach levels, i.e. we are at Yellow, so this can happen, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● March 21 town hall considerations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Who is available? ○ What should the format be? (Large group Q&A with board/staff/task force members or breakouts/listening sessions?) <p>Decided to have the Town Hall during coffee hour on March 21st and keep it simple...will discuss the Implementation Plan and allow people to express themselves, ask questions, etc. We will provide a breakout room for people to go to who want to leave after the initial presentation.</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>8:00</p>	<p>Stretch break</p>	
<p>8:10</p>	<p>Youth status reports</p> <p>Activities recently have focused on sharing and working together. Also, included making buttons showing world issues important to each person. Palentine's movie event coming up...have made goodie bags which include lots of candy and treats and supplies for meetings for the month.</p>	<p>Caroline Teddy</p>

8:15	<p>Staff reports</p> <p>Kept the reports short, since we've just had the Mid-Year Meeting. CT met today and is working on policies. In 2018 at the Annual Meeting the congregation voted on a communications policy...can't find any documentation of the final product. CT is working to piece it together for affirmation at the 2021 Annual Meeting in June. Auction looks like it will come in over \$30M, 50% over budget. This will cover the \$8M in the budget for the Rummage Sale, which did not happen because of Covid. We have incurred over \$4M in snow removal expenses. Sam Pollock found a scissor hook lift for the church at a cost of \$4,500, half of which he will cover. We have been renting one at a cost of \$800-\$1200 each time once or twice each year. Sam and Frank Phillips drove to Madison, WI, to pick it up—Thank you cards! Amber reported that congratulations are in order for Yesh Cosme, as he has been appointed, as the inaugural At-Large Youth Commissioner, to the Columbus South Side Area Commission. He will be sworn in at the March meeting.</p>	Marian, Brian
8:30	<p>Other committee & task force reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Finance Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Treasurer's report <p>Continue to work on bank accounts and addressing bank fees. PPP1 Loan—Huntington has approved a full forgiveness; the next step is a review by the SBA. It is probable that they will approve the full forgiveness, as well. Thank you to Judy Kleen for putting together all of the numbers. PPP2—application has been submitted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Strategic Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Survey draft for review: ○ https://surveynuts.com/surveys/take?id=215197&c=9423046253PJNR <p>The SP survey will be deployed on March 1st and will be open for two weeks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nominating Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Who will be their liaison for the remainder of the year? <p>No updates. Seth will be the liaison for the remainder of the year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Personnel Committee <p>Nothing pressing.</p>	Laura Don Greg
8:45	<p>Retreat preparation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Please read this piece by UU minister and consultant CB Beal before our first session on Saturday. 	Lisa
8:50	<p>Thank you notes - Any suggestions?</p> <p>Auction team members (Co-chairs: Susan O'Donnell, Marylou MacDonald, & Candee Rothert; Sharon Hammersley, Janet Mangini, Jeannie Sperling, Jim Pinkham, Danya Furda, Seth Kraut, Cathy O'Neil,</p>	Jan

	Holly & Cliff Adams (auction party drinks), and Judy Vazquez (auctioneer)); Sam Pollock & Frank Phillips (scissor lift); Katy Oberle (song at February 14th service); Judy Kleen (PPP loans); Yesh Cosme (congratulations); Joel Miller and Columbus Mennonite Church (Edith Espinal—Sanctuary); Pastor Sally Padgett and First English Lutheran Church (Miriam Vargas—Sanctuary).	
	This month's action items <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	
8:55	Wrap up and Closing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● One-word checkout ● Extinguish the Chalice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ I put my hand in your hand so that we can do together what I cannot do alone. 	All

**Respectfully submitted,
Jan Phillips
First UU Board Secretary**