

Minutes of June 14, 2020, Annual Meeting
Please send any comments to secretary@uuwestport.org.
These minutes were approved at the June 13, 2021, Annual Meeting

**MINUTES OF THE 69TH ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE UNITARIAN CHURCH IN WESTPORT
JUNE 14, 2020**

Call to Order: Ken Vogel, President of the Board of Trustees (Board), called the meeting to order at 11:50 am. This meeting was conducted on a Zoom format.

Quorum Report: Mary-Jane Cross, Secretary of the Board, confirmed 101 Members signed in via ZOOM chat. This exceeds the quorum requirement of 65 Members.

Centering: Senior Minister Rev. John Morehouse lit the chalice and read words from Erik Walker Wikstrom on “the Work of the Congregation.”

Approval of Minutes of Member Meeting Minutes: Ken Vogel moved to approve the Minutes from two prior Member Meetings:

- 1) The Minutes from the 68th Annual Meeting on June 9, 2019
- 2) The Minutes from the Member Meeting on November 24, 2019

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The Very Fine Lifetime Volunteer Service Award: Carrie McEvoy, Vice-President of the Board, announced that the 18th annual Very Fine Lifetime Volunteer Service Award winner is Kristen Leddy. She received an ovation from all present.

Board of Trustees Report: Ken Vogel reviewed the activities of the Board during this past year noting that the Board has been monitoring progress towards the priority Congregation Ends. The Board continues to operate under the leadership model of policy-based governance, which is proving to be an effective method of governance. The full report is in the 2020 Annual Report.

Financial Reports:

2020-2021 Pledge Report: Mary Money, co-chair of the Year-Round Stewardship Committee, gave some highlights for the year in Stewardship. Although pledges are below goal, due to the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19 and the economic recession, participation in pledge events was robust and most Congregants were reached via Visiting Stewards and virtual messaging.

Endowment Committee: Chair Kevin Leddy reviewed the income and disbursements from the Endowment, noting that they continue to contribute to the Annual Operating Budget and that the Endowment balance remains within the recommended guidelines of at least 2 ½-3 times TUCW's annual operating budget. Details are in the Annual Report.

As was approved by Member vote last year, the Endowment Committee will continue to support a matching fund type of contribution, up to \$500,000 in total over three years, to the Capital Campaign.

Financial Results & Proposed Budget: Catherine Onyemelukwe, Treasurer, explained the 2019-2020 Profit and Loss (P/L) statement for the year, and presented the Proposed

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Budget and Contingencies for 2020-2021. She thanked the committee for its efforts. The full report is in the Annual Report.

Congregants expressed gratitude to Steve Grathwohl for initiating and facilitating the Payroll Protection Program loan that TUCW has been awarded in the amount of \$112,000. While at this time it is a loan, and therefore cannot be recorded as an item on the income side of the P/L statement, there is every indication that the terms of the loan agreement will be met, in which case the loan would be forgiven. This loan covers the income shortfall for this fiscal year.

Ratification of the 2020-2021 Budget: Catherine Onyemelukwe moved to ratify the 2020-2021 budget. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Constitutional Amendment to Increase the Size of the Committee on Ministry (COM): Randy Burnham, co-chair of COM, moved

To change Article X, Section 4, paragraph 1 of the Constitution to read, "The Committee On Ministries is comprised of seven members elected to serve for staggered five-year terms."

The Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Per the Constitution, a second vote is required to ratify the proposed change. This vote will take place in September 2020.

Elections: Michelle Garvey, Co-Chair of the Nominating Committee, thanked the members of the committee and presented the following slate of candidates for election to office.

- **Board of Trustees** [3 year terms – to 2023]

Beth Cliff (1st)

Judy Eckert (1st)

Andy Gundell (1st)

Luke Garvey (1st) – to 2021, completing term

- **Endowment Committee** [5 year term – to 2025]

Jamie Forbes

- **Committee on Ministries** [5 year term – to 2024]

Martha Constable

Linda Lubin – to 2024, completing term

- **Nominating Committee** [2 year term – to 2022]

Tom Croarkin

Lynne Laukhuf

A motion was made and seconded to approve the slate of nominees. The slate was approved as presented.

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Installation of New Board & Elected Committee Members: Ken Vogel welcomed the newly elected Board and Elected Committee members, charging them to serve the Congregation to the best of their abilities, and charging their fellow committee members and the Congregation to support them in the work they are taking on.

Catherine Onyemelukwe thanked the exiting Board members for their service – Ken Vogel, Carrie McEvoy, Mary-Jane Cross.

#MeToo Resolution Report: Rev. John Morehouse reported on progress to date on the directives in the 2018 Congregation Resolution. He commended the great work done by Rev. Shelly on Covenanting, and praised the hard work done by Sudha Sankar and Cheryl Dixon, Co-Chairs of the Gender Equity Team. The progress that has been made over the past year has been both meaningful in the lives of individual women in the congregation and powerful in its focus on inspiring leaders to rethink the words they use and the ways TUCW can be more inclusive. The full report is in the 2020 Annual Report.

Committee on Ministries (COM) Report: Sudha Sankar reflected on the COM's role in support of the Ministry this past year and mentioned highlights of the work done, including the Pastoral Care Chaplains' outreach to contact everyone in the Congregation. She thanked the committee for its hard work. The full report is in the Annual Report.

New Business: There was no new business.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 am

Respectfully submitted,
Stapley Emberling,
Acting Secretary of the Board of Trustees