

Attending: Luke Garvey, Catherine Onyemelukwe, Stapley Emberling, Andy Gundell, Ravi Sankar, Beth Cliff, Wendy Levy, Deb Garskof, and Rev. John Morehouse (ex-officio)

Absent: Steve Grathwohl

Guests: None

This month's Board meeting is brought to you by **Priority End 1.3.5** – *Minimize our impact on the Earth and work to heal our planet*

Agenda/Topic	Discussion	Motions & Votes (M/S/V); Actions
Opening	L Garvey called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. W Levy gave a reading from Debra Burrell and the chalice was lit.	
Check-In	Meeting attendees checked in.	
Consent Agenda	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minutes: September 21, 2021, BOT Meeting 2. Confirmation of the Priority Ends for the 2021-2022 year: 1.1.1, 1.2.4, and 1.3.5 3. Consent/Approval of Endowment Committee's request to authorize Cynthia Potter, David Bauer, and Mark Corcoran to make transactions on behalf of the Endowment Committee regarding TUCW accounts with the Unitarian Universalist Common Endowment Fund and the Vanguard Brokerage Account (this is done every year, authorizing the signatures of the current members of the Endowment Committee) 	M/S/V: Motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Passed. All items Approved.
Sr Minister's Report	Rev Morehouse gave his interpretation of End 1.3.5, reported on how we are currently doing with regard to these considerations (estimating that we are now about 20% in line with this end), and explained what needs to be done (stressing the need for further education about these issues and a commitment "to a long-term strategy of change") in order to meet our goals to <i>Minimize our impact on the Earth and work to heal our planet</i> (End 1.3.5). One idea he suggested would be to form a Climate Justice Team and have Intern Kim Warren work with the children and youth and liaison with adult groups to work on climate change issues. He also reported on the impact that working toward this goal (End 1.3.5) would have on our Limitation Policies 3.2 through 3.9, and, overall, expects no negative impacts. (See the Sr Minister's October 2021 report on the Website.)	
Information Reports (IR)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. L Garvey gave the Treasurer's Report for October, referencing S Grathwohl's written report (posted on the website and on Dropbox). One problem adding to both last year's and this year's shortfall has been the considerable number of congregants who have failed to fulfill their pledges. (We have collected \$14,000 less than what had been pledged to 	

	<p>TUCW by this point in time, due to people not keeping up with their pledges.) Also, newcomers are not pledging, and are often not canvassed. The question was raised that perhaps our “Share the Plate” tradition has been misinterpreted by some newcomers to mean that TUCW is in such good financial shape that it doesn’t need contributions for itself.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. R Sankar gave an update on the progress of the Name Change Committee, reporting on feedback from congregants from the previous 5 Town Hall meetings over the last 8 months to discuss a possible name change with the Congregation and to listen to ideas and feedback. A final Town Hall to discuss the topic is set for November 5. At the conclusion of that last Town Hall, the Board hopes to have narrowed the possibilities to a single name that can then be proposed and put to a Congregational vote at 2 consecutive Member Meetings, possibly in December 2021 and in January 2022. 3. A Gundell gave an update on the Tech Team: progress to date, challenges, and resources needed. 4. L Garvey gave an update on: Board Succession, Onboarding procedures, a “Cookbook” of tasks and responsibilities for Officers and for all Board members, and ongoing Board Education (the “SOCE” Project). A Gundell volunteered to assist L Garvey and S Emberling in moving this project forward. 5. B Cliff briefed the Board on past, present, and future efforts in the important domain of Linkages. W Levy will assist B Cliff on the Linkages subcommittee. 	<p>All Board members agreed to make all efforts to attend the Town Hall meeting on November 5 to show solidarity and support for the new name the Board recommends (Unitarian Universalists in Westport)</p> <p>A Gundell will meet with Rev Morehouse over the next few weeks to discuss estimates for a professional company to assist the (all-volunteer) Tech Team in moving ahead with TUCW’s digital capacity and technical improvements.</p> <p>B Cliff and W Levy will meet to plan Linkage activities and create more opportunities to connect the Board with the Congregation.</p>
Monitoring Procedures and Questions	<p>B Cliff widened the discussion on Linkages to address questions that had been raised by the Monitoring Team about how and what the Board should monitor, how to determine the “pulse” of the Congregation as well as understanding TUCW’s standing in the greater community. Further discussion included ways the Board might effectively collaborate with the COM. There was also discussion of whether or not the Board would attend (as Observers only) the Quarterly Committee Chair Meeting, but there was no final decision made on this question.</p>	<p>L Garvey will meet with Chuck Harrington, Chair of the COM, to discuss coordination of Board and COM interaction with the Congregation.</p>
Generative Discussion	<p>The discussion on Membership was deferred until next month, due to time constraints.</p>	
Executive Session	<p>Time for Board-only Discussion</p>	

Check-Out and Assignments	Members reported out and clarified their individual assignments to be handled before our next meeting.	
Process Observer	B Cliff commented on how we did as a Board tonight.	
Closing Reflection	A Gundell read from the Foreword (written by Frank Hall) to the collection of poems called <i>Natural Selections</i> . He also read from this collection the poem, "Happiness" by Carl Sanders.	
Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 pm.	Meeting assignments for the monthly meetings are posted on Dropbox and are listed on the agenda.
	Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, November 16, 2021	

Respectfully submitted,
 Stapley Emberling,
 Secretary for the Board of Trustees
 October 19, 2021