

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

Absent: Luke Garvey, Catherine Onyemelukwe

Guests: Kim Warman

*This month's Board meeting is brought to you by **End 1.3.1** – “**Build authentic relationships with people across all differences**”*

Agenda/Topic	Discussion	Motions & Votes (M/S/V); Actions
Opening	B Cliff (Vice President) called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. R Sankar shared 3 short poems by Sant Kabir Das (b. 1398) as our Opening Reflection. The virtual chalice was lit.	
Consent Agenda	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minutes: Board Meeting on November 16, 2021 2. Approval of the Housing Allowance of the Senior Minister for the calendar year 2022 	M/S/V: Motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Passed. November 2021 Minutes: Approved. Housing Allowance: Approved (set at \$24,000)
Generative Discussion	B Cliff led a lively discussion on how membership at TUCW is currently defined (by signing the Membership Book and making a “recognizable” annual pledge) and whether we might wish to change or adapt these criteria for the future. The discussion also examined many different expressions of engagement within our church community, as well as new ways to attract young families. We also considered how TUCW counts its members for the purposes of paying our fair share to the UUA for the size of our membership.	
Name-Change Initiative	B Cliff gave an update: She will lead a small taskforce of congregants who will consider all the potential new names for TUCW that were proposed at the November 7 th Town Hall discussion (which was the 6 th such Town Halls in 2021 to consider this issue), as well as any other new name suggestions that are sent to the taskforce. The Board listened and has responded to feedback from the Congregation in November, and their intention is to allow congregants, who feel strongly, the chance to participate in the process, to take the time they need to explore all the possibilities they wish to, and to move the project to a productive conclusion that will satisfy the majority of the Congregation. The creation of the Name-Change Taskforce seems the best way to accomplish this goal. Several announcements have been made in SOUNDINGS and elsewhere to encourage interested congregants to contact Beth Cliff (beth@uuwestport.org) to discuss joining this initiative.	
Update on the Organ Situation	B Cliff had to leave the meeting, as prearranged, and S Grathwohl (Treasurer) took over the lead for the remainder of the meeting. NOTE: The Board met twice in early December with the Organ Committee (the Rev. Ed Thompson, Sharon Poole, Debbie Handler, and Elena Rockman-	

	<p>Blake) to continue the discussion of the Organ project: Zoom meeting on 12/2/21, and again by Zoom on 12/10/21, to hear responses from the Organ Committee to the Board's long list of questions concerning the possibility of purchasing a new organ.</p> <p>On 12/10/21, after hearing clear and complete answers to each and every one of the Board's questions and concerns (and after considerable deliberation), a Motion was made to support the Proposal from the Organ Committee to purchase a specific medium-sized organ. A vote was taken, and the Motion Passed.</p>	<p>M/S/V: Motion Passed: To support and endorse the Organ Committee's Proposal to purchase a specific Organ (the funds needed for the acquisition will be entirely provided by private donations that have already been collected for this purpose; no further funds will be needed or requested from the Congregation)</p>
Sr Minister's Report	Rev Morehouse reported on <i>End 1.3.1 – "Build authentic relationships with people across all differences"</i>	
Treasurer's Report	S Grathwohl gave the Treasurer's Report for December 2021 (see Treasurer's December 2021 Report on the website)	
Information Reports (IR)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Gundell gave an update on the Tech Team 2. W Levy gave an update on Linkages. Future plans involve three areas of focus: Attitude, Visibility, and Connection. 	
Executive Session	Time for Board-only Discussion: A name was chosen to fill the current vacancy on the COM, with a second name selected, if needed. The first-choice selection will be approached by S Emberling in the next few days, and results of that discussion will be reported to the Board in January.	
Check-Out and Assignments	Members gave a brief check-out and clarified their individual assignments to be handled before our next meeting.	
Process Observer	D Garskof commented on how we did as a Board tonight.	
Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 pm.	Meeting assignments for the monthly meetings are posted on Dropbox and are listed on the agenda.
	Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, January 18, 2022	

Respectfully submitted,
 Stapley Emberling,
 Secretary for the Board of Trustees
 For December 21, 2021