

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Wilmington**  
**Board of Trustees (BOT)**  
**Meeting Minutes, April 2017**

Date: April 25, 2017, 6:00 PM

Location: Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Wilmington, 4313 Lake Ave., Wilmington, NC 28403.

Secretary: Bill Singleton.

Meeting Called By: Eden Avery, President.

Members Attending: Eden Avery, President; Patricia Forrest, Vice President; Bill Singleton, Secretary; Don Wood, Acting Treasurer; Tammy Ellison, Jennifer Paetzold-Garcia.

Absent: Marvin Fineman, Treasurer; John Grigsby; Roxie Morison, Barbara Wolk.

Staff: Rev. Cheryl M. Walker (Ex-Officio); Sue Graffius, DRE.

**Agenda**

- 1) Chalice Lighting and Reading of the Mission Statement and Board Covenant  
*Mission of the UUCW Board of Trustees:* Ensure that the activities and resources of the congregation are effectively and efficiently directed toward achieving the mission of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Wilmington.
- 2) Reports
  - a) Consensus reports: Minister's, DRE's, and Treasurer's reports for March and the Minutes from the Board, dated March 28, 2017. The reports were approved as written.\*
- 3) Policy Work
  - a) The Board reviewed and edited the most recent Vision Statement. We agreed to vote on the Statement after Bill sends out a final revised version.
  - b) Addendum April 30, 2017 – The Board unanimously voted to approve the revised Vision Statement by email vote (April 27 through April 30).
- 4) Proposed Bylaw Revisions
  - a) The Board reviewed and made small changes to the proposed bylaws which were prepared by Eden, Rev. Cheryl and Roxie. The revised bylaws, if they are approved by the Congregation at the Annual Meeting, will not take effect until the 2018-2019 church year. The key proposal is to make the Treasurer a non-Board position but an ex-officio member of the Board.
- 5) Nominating Committee
  - a) Jessica joined the meeting to provide an update on the selection of candidates for the Board and for the Nominating Committee.
- 6) Board/Congregation Linkage Session
  - a) The schedule of the next Board/Congregation conversations was confirmed for May 7 after each service. The Board will review the proposed Program Budget and the proposed bylaw revisions.

7) Board Hospitality

- a) The Board members will provide the hospitality items: coffee and snacks in Dobkin Hall, this Sunday, April 30.

8) BOT Calendar

- a) The next scheduled meeting will be:

9) May 18: the next Board Meeting.

10) The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 PM.

NEXT MEETING: May 18, 2017.

**\* ACTION ITEMS AND DEFERRED TOPICS**

From March Meeting:

- Bill will submit minutes for publication on the web site and will post in Dobkin Hall.
- Bill will post the Treasurer's report in Dobkin Hall.

From April Meeting:

- The use of member and pledging information was deferred to the May meeting.

## ***MINISTERS REPORT – BOARD MEETING 04-25-2017***

A significant amount of my time was spent this month dealing with the fallout from the resignation of UUA President, Peter Morales. As President of the UUMA I attended UUA online Board meetings, had conversations with the Moderator of the UUA Board and worked to provide support to UUMA membership. In the midst of the problems within the UUA, the UUMA is also experiencing turmoil due to a letter written by our Executive Director, Don Southworth. I appreciate the fact that the Board has been supportive of my service to our larger Unitarian Universalist community, though it has meant I spent less of this month on our congregation. I don't expect this continue.

Met with the bylaw review subgroup of the Board to present changes to them for the annual meeting. The major changes focus on removing the Treasurer as a member of the Board, cleaning up and clarifying nomination and eligibility for the Board.

Worked with Stewardship to provide pledge information and pledge cards for the current stewardship drive. Also worked with them on the stewardship dinner.

Hosted 15 members and friends for the East African Auction dinner. What fun.

Had the sound system repaired, we replaced the mixing board and had the system reconfigured and completely tested. This was done because we lost the ability to transmit sound to the lobby and via the assisted hearing devices.

Participated in the March for Science. I was scheduled to be one of the presenters but due to time constraints I got bumped from the program. But it was still good exposure for our congregation.

Participated in a panel discussion with Rev. John McLaughlin, and Rabbi Paul Sidlofsky to Wilmington Youth Pride, a support group for LGBTQIA youth.

Worked with the Ministerial Roundtable on planning an observance of the National Day of Prayer on Thursday May 4<sup>th</sup>.

Guest preached at Waccamaw All Souls in Myrtle Beach.

Gave the installation sermon at Beacon UU in Summit, NJ.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. Cheryl M. Walker

## **DRE Report to the Board April 2017**

April attendance:

April 2: 11

April 9: 17

April 16: 32 (Easter)

April 23: 18 (Brother Sun)

April 2017 weekly average (through April 23): 20

We had a lot of fun at our Annual Easter Egg Hunt! The older kids had fun “hiding” the eggs and the younger ones had fun “finding” them!

I’ve been reviewing curricula for next year and will have a schedule and a call for teachers shortly.

I assisted the Stewardship team by making a slide show for their dinner.

Our Youth Art Show will “open” on April 23. Last year we had 2 entries, so we’re hoping for more this year. This year’s theme is *LOVE IS LOVE IS LOVE*.

We finished the *Human Universe* presentations/discussions, facilitated by Jimmy Reeves. The attendees asked for more of that type of programming, so Jimmy will look for another to facilitate in the fall.

We cancelled the Adult Program *Harvest the Power* as there was little interest.

The Wilmington Progressive Book Club continues to have great participation.

I’m working with Diane Miller to assist her in coordinating the Welcome! Class that will begin on April 30.

The Wilmington Pride Youth Group continues to meet weekly with great participation. After the faith-leader panel in March, some of the attendees started coming to UUCWNC for the 11:00 service!

In addition to next year’s programming, I’m working on our summer plans.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Graffius, DLRE

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Wilmington**  
**March 31, 2017 TREASURER'S REPORT**

Total Revenue for March	\$44,649	Revenues Year-to-Date	\$189,479
Total Expenses for March	\$21,239	Expenses Year-to-date	\$140,397
Net for March	\$23,409	Net Year-to-date	\$27,867

PNC Operating Cash Balance \$10,546      Change from prior month (\$8,396)

Remarks for the monthly results:

Our net income for March was \$23,409. Last March (2015), our net was (\$2,232), so this year's financial result for March is up \$28,641 vs. last year.

Our income last month vs. the budgeted income of (\$38) was mainly due to a large anonymous donation UUCW received through UUA. Generally, monthly results should not be given much weight, as swings can be pretty wild due to the nature of the church year and variability in dates that bills are paid.

Highlights for the first nine months of the fiscal year:

1. Pledge income is about \$21,000 behind what is expected at this time of year. With only 3 months to go in this fiscal year, it is time for each congregant to check whether they are on track in meeting their covenant with the church family. The special contribution makes our overall financials look very good, but the heart of our financials is in our pledges. That core dedicated amount is what really drives us as a thriving congregation. Friends and members should remember this also as they consider their pledges for the next fiscal year.
2. A comparison to prior results at the bottom of the Balance Sheet shows that our overall financial net worth increased about \$43,723 year to date. This is due mainly to four consecutive months of positive financial results and the special contribution of over \$23,000.
3. Coastal Bank has offered us a new mortgage at nearly the same rate we paid before, pending the result of an appraisal to be done soon. Fortunately, our current lender is carrying the loan beyond the due date for a while, so we are not in default on our current mortgage. We expect closing in early May.
4. The appraisal mentioned above will provide us with current market values for our buildings and land, which will improve the accuracy of the Balance Sheet considerably.

Treasurer Action items for April BoT meeting:

- Post printed Treasurer's Report for March in Dobkin Hall
- Post modified Treasurer's Reports to a communication medium

Respectfully submitted,  
Marvin D. Fineman, Treasurer