



MINUTES
Parish Board Meeting
June 30, 2020

Present: Gene Thompson-Grove (outgoing co-chair), Janet Britcher (incoming co-chair), Karla Baehr, Alfred Brownell (incoming member), Ellen Blaney (outgoing member), Emily Cherry (incoming member), Micaela Coady, Jen Guillemine (incoming member), Steve Pratt-Otto, Charles Sandmel (outgoing Treasurer)*, Margaret Williams (incoming Treasurer), Bob Williamson (incoming co-chair)

* was able to attend a portion of the meeting

Absent: Dave Demerjian (outgoing member)

Others: Rev Lisa

Incoming co-chair Janet Britcher welcomed everyone shortly after 7:00pm. Rev Lisa lit the chalice and read Elie Wiesel's The Gates of the Forest. Janet explained that she and Bob had planned this final meeting of the 2019-20 church year as the Board's traditional welcome of new board members and farewell to outgoing members.

Welcoming New Members

Board members thanked new Board members "for saying yes" to the invitation to be nominated for Board membership and offered virtual hugs in the form of a gift of chocolate dropped off at their home and a personal welcome from one of the on-going or out-going members describing some of what they already know about the person and how we are all "eager to learn more".

Building Shared Knowledge

Members met in small groups and used the Jam Board application to develop and share visual responses to these prompts:

Outgoing members: I am glad I served on the board because ... AND I wish I had known...

Continuing members: By being on the board I learned... AND in terms of our work as a board I am most proud of...

New members: I said yes because ... and ... AND I bring this to the team (strength, quality)

In new small groups, new and old members continued to build shared knowledge in order to develop relationships by responding to these prompts:

When I am in a new group I...

What I've heard so far today is...

I do my best work in a group when...

I have a question for the outgoing/ongoing member

Members shared “takeaways” from these conversations with the whole group as preparation for creation of the next year’s Board Covenant.

Meeting Schedule for 2020-21

Janet explained that she would use email to confirm the dates for the August “Fun” virtual get-together, the August Board meeting, and for the September Planning Retreat. The Retreat is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, September 19th. The Board will meet once each month. To increase access, meetings will alternate between Sundays at 1:00 after services and Wednesday evenings from 7:00-9:00. Officers (Co-chairs Clerk and Treasurer) will meet on Wednesdays from 5:00-6:15 once each month with Rev Lisa to establish the agenda for Board meetings. Janet also established dates and times for Board and Executive Committee meetings:

8/13, 14 or 15	Board Fun Event
8/19 or 26	Board Meeting 7:00-9:00
9/2	Executive Committee 5:00-6:15
Saturday 9/12 or 19	Board Retreat 9:00-4:00
9/30	Executive Committee 5:00-6:15
10/4	Board Meeting 1:00-3:00
10/28	Executive Committee 5:00-6:15
11/4	Board Meeting 7:00-9:00
12/2	Executive Committee 5:00-6:15
12/6	Board Meeting 1:00-3:00
12/23	Executive Committee 5:00-6:15
1/6	Board Meeting 7:00-9:00
2/3	Executive Committee 5:00-6:15
2/7	Board Meeting 1:00-3:00
2/27	Executive Committee 5:00-6:15
3/3	Board Meeting 7:00-9:00
3/31	Executive Committee 5:00-6:15
4/4	Board Meeting 1:00-3:00
4/28	Executive Committee 5:00-6:15
5/5	Board Meeting 7:00-9:00
6/2	Executive Committee 5:00-6:15
6/6	Board Meeting 1:00-3:00

Closing

Ellen Blaney led a closing responsive reading:

Unitarian Universalist minister Rev. Theresa Soto writes, "All of us need all of us to make it." I want you to get used to those words; make them your prayer. *All of us need all of us to make it.*

This is why Unitarian Universalists support the Black Lives Matter movement. Please take a moment to center the struggle for Black lives in your thoughts.

Say it with me, loud or soft: "All of us need all of us to make it."

In a world where some of us are targeted for struggle and brutality, where others of us benefit and flourish, we pray:

"All of us need all of us to make it."

In a world where powerful people of ill will and indifference make us fearful for our safety and our futures, we pray:

"All of us need all of us to make it."

In the excruciating space that lives between seeing and naming, and hearing and changing, we pray:

"All of us need all of us to make it."

Make a picture in your mind of someone you aren't very happy with right now. Look at their face in your mind, and pray:

"All of us need all of us to make it."

Unitarian Universalists believe that all of us need all of us to make it; this is why we are in solidarity with the movement for Black lives today and every day.

Amen.

The meeting ended at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karla Baehr, Clerk