

FUF Board Meeting Approved Minutes, March 6, 2025
at 12:30 pm at FUF
as amended on April 18, 2025

Present: Irene Wegner, President; Nick Coulson, 2nd Vice President / Programs; Mary Matthews, 2d Vice President / Corresponding Secretary; Maggie Joffe, Treasurer; Jeanine Normand, Recording Secretary; Phillip Herring, at-large Board Member;
Also present: Ashley Weller, FUF Administrator, and Mark Ohler, Art Chair

Call to order: at 12:30

1. Minutes from Feb 14 – **Jeanine**. Minutes accepted.
2. Financial Report – **Maggie**. She attached is the financial report. The CD is moved back to the money market account. Also, some of these little committees are reorganized under broader functions. **Nick** moved to accept this reorganized, **Phillip** 2nd the motion passed unanimously. **Mary Anderson** had asked for funds to use to spiff up the foyer, adult education room, and office, up to \$1,000. The board wants to see the committee's plan first.
As for the financial report: **Phillip** moved, **Mark O.** seconded, and it was approved.
3. Administrator's Report – **Ashley**. She has updated the online calendar, and included a report attached here.
4. Signage: **Mark O.** He plans to put a sign under the chalice window outside, Fairhope Unitarian Fellowship, perpendicular to the building, two-sided, large enough to be seen, aluminum & vinyl panel with treated lumber posts. In addition, entrance/exit signs as needed. Perhaps a welcome sign on to of the entrance doors. Rough estimate is less than \$2,000.
Inside rooms to have door-name plaques, approximately eight, might be included in this estimate. This estimate is from Boone Signs in Foley. More information at the next board meeting.
5. Discussion of the mission statement:
"To foster the values of our Fellowship in the community by nurturing friendship, knowledge, social justice and *personal spiritual growth*."
We noted how closely that resembles the vision for FUF that was adopted by the board a couple in 2024: "Grounded in love, guided by reason, committed *to spiritual growth* and justice." [*sic*] [To be correct, it needs semicolons in the place of commas.]
We need to vote on the endorsement some version of these mission statements to be in line with our vision statement.
The board has *strong* opinions on whether to use in our mission statement 'spiritual' or 'personal' growth, and some found both terms, as well as the term 'growth,' superfluous.
Nick moved **Maggie** seconded to present to the membership to vote on one version or another. Members could be notified by email as well as anonymously voting on Sundays

on a handout. Four voted yes, and two voted no. Motion passed.

Update on the mission statement: Just after the meeting, we found our FUF mission statement already adopted **in 2002**. It is printed in the 2023 Board Handbook. Our original 2002 one has the correct spelling of our planet Earth, and it will be corrected to initial capital in the Board Handbook as well. [*See the Board Handbook for the mission statement.*]

6. Application of the mission statement to the five teams:

We have the Building and Membership mission statements. We still need statements for Governance, Program, and Community. They are expected before the next board meeting.

Board liaisons to committees: **Irene** thinks that we could have the five team leaders simply report to the board on a quarterly basis, thus ensuring that groups are working together and across teams.

Nick handed out today another grouping of teams/committees, which is loosely based on **Mary Anderson's** suggestions. He assigned certain areas to board positions. **Mary Matthews**, who helps with the kitchen, said that it is independent of the board, and that it should not be included in this list.

We would combine the social action and environmental committees with the cochairs, **Jeanine** and **Riva Fralick**.

We need the structure of compartmentalizing the committees, and to assign them to the appropriate board members.

Maggie asked what are the basic functions that we need to function as a fellowship. The discussion will continue.

It was decided that a "committee on committee structure" will form with **Maggie**, who doesn't want to be the chair, and **Irene**. Perhaps **Mary A.** will participate.

7. Activities:

A. PiDay on March 14

B. Rummage Sale on March 22

8. New Appointed Board Member: **Jeanine** moved, and **Mary M.** seconded to have the board appoint **Mark Preston** serve on the board as a Team Leader. Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm

Next board meeting would normally be the second Friday at 12:30 pm, but in April, **Irene** may have to change it, TBD.

Minutes respectfully taken by **Jeanine Normand**, FUF Recording Secretary