

The Fourth Universalist Society in the City of New York

Rev. Schuyler Vogel, Senior Minister
Spencer Salzberg, Board President



Board of Trustees Meeting – Tuesday, March 8, 2022

1. **Board Members Present:** Spencer Salzberg, Loretta Howard, Jason Sandler, Juliet Brown, & Jasmine Mack
Staff Present: Rev. Leonisa Ardizzone, Sheila Powers, Melanie Van Orden, & Ember Kelley
Others Present: Stephanie Coker & Erin Bigelow
Quorum: Yes

2. 2020 – 2021 Objectives:
 - Align our values in Fourth U’s budget
 - Engage in creative ways to meet congregation’s needs, celebrate & support congregants & staff, and serve the community beyond the congregation.
 - Reopen building and in-person services safely and responsibly
 - Move ahead with a process to create a new Mission Statement
 - Move ahead with Anti-Racist Policy / Eighth Principal Discussion and Adoption

3.
 - I. Ingathering called to order by President Spencer Salzberg at 7:04pm
 - A. Reflection / Chalice Lighting (3 min)
 - B. Check-in (10 min)
 - C. Unison Reading of Mission Statement (1 min)

We are a diverse, welcoming community, connecting people to their spiritual center and to one another, inspiring lives of service through reason and love.

- II. Approval of Minutes (March 8, 2022) – Minutes are approved
 - A. Eighth Principle Task Force Update
 1. Stephanie and Erin will return to the Board after having researched the following:
 - a. What percentage of UUA congregations offer services specifically for the deaf and hard of hearing
 - b. How many UU congregations within the City of New York offers such services
 - c. How can 4thU be hospitable to and build community with people who might need these services?

III. Board Reports

- A. President's Report
Submitted under separate cover
- B. Administrator's Report
Submitted under separate cover
- C. Treasurer's Report
Submitted under separate cover
- D. Minister's Report
Submitted under separate cover

IV. New Business

- A. Trustee Resignation
- B. 2022 – 2023 Board of Trustees Slate
 - 1. Juliet will speak with Soyal about how to know what areas our congregation represents. Note: attempts have been made, but getting people to respond can be challenging.
- C. Organizational Chart
 - 1. Reverend Leonisa will forward a copy of the organizational chart she used at a previous congregation, as well as a teaching and service that Paula Cole Jones did for the Hudson Mohawk.
 - 2. The Board may want to encourage a "shared ministry" model, where everyone in the congregation must pick their "circle" for which they want to serve.
 - 3. Reverend Leonisa recommended a book called *Many Voices, One Song*, which she suggested would be a good conversation starter for the Board.
- D. Sunday Morning Sign-In Procedures
 - 1. Administration is researching how to use Realm to make tracking attendance easier for the congregants and Hospitality.
 - 2. Members would have to be registered in Realm in order to use it for easier check-ins.
 - 3. Could a team be built for the purpose of helping congregants register and sign in?
 - 4. Melanie will speak to Soyal about having a printout of members and visitors who are already registered so they can simply be checked off, and the people who are not registered can then do so.

V. Old Business

- A. Mission Statement Task Force Update
 - 1. 64% of the congregants like the new mission statement. Found the words "anti-oppressive," "liberal," and "Reason," to be problematic.
- B. COVID 19 Response and Next Steps
 - 1. We will have Covid meetings on an "as needed" basis.
 - 2. Board will continue to discuss needed cultural and systemic change regarding decision making and who will be invited to participate.

VI. Comments, Announcements, and Other Business

- A. Next Board Meeting – Tuesday, April 12, 2022

VII. Acknowledgements and Appreciations

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 9:02 pm