

June 7, 2020

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Berrien Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Version 6-16-20 FINAL DRAFT

A very respectable 65% of the voting membership were in attendance (29 out of 44), with an additional six non-voting members also present, with a total of 35 participating in the meeting.

Comments of Minister James McConnell: I welcome everyone to our first annual meeting by zoom; and look forward to when we can actually gather together again in person. Welcome!

Comments of retiring President, Harvey Johnson:

- It's impossible to list the many members and staff who have so heavily contributed (both financial and in-kind) to the BUUF community, with many folks often going above and beyond. BUUF has had many successes in the last year, more of which can be read about in each program's annual report. Congratulations to all!
- He alluded to the fact that we will figure out, as a community, when the time is right to resume our services in person, to which everyone very much looks forward. There is a desire, of course, to keep the Zoom option along with in person meetings.
- Particular thanks to Gretchen, Glen, Nico, Joanne and Lisa (and the Sunday Services Committee) for making the transition to the zoom format so smooth. Well done everyone!

Comments of Dave Sarra, Treasurer:

- Happily, the lay-offs of staff for one month in fiscal year 2019/2020 that were necessary due to budget shortages have not been necessary for FY 2020/2021. "I've never seen such a good budget as we now have," Dave has said. For FY 2020/2021, a new record of \$40,000 has been pledged. The board has created a budget for 84% of those funds, as shown in the slides for both BUUF expenditures and BUUF income stream.
- Due to the recent stock market drop, the Endowment Fund has lost approximately \$5,000 this FY. A suggestion was made that a means of re-payment into the Fund be considered with the following suggestions:
 - Legacy donations are available to all
 - Add a line item to future budgets
 - Nominated incoming President Beth La Fleur committed to looking into the reimbursement question this coming FY

Initial Requests for funding from the Endowment Fund and discussion points were:

1. Presented by Harvey Johnson - repaving the asphalt parking lot, at a cost of \$2,500. Discussion points: the water table issue needs to be addressed; more quotes are needed; a small committee should be formed to come up with a comprehensive solution to the problems.

2. Presented by Harvey Johnson - allocating up to \$10,000 for repairs and replacements of HVAC components at BUUF building. Discussion points: Jim Fuller explained the type and condition of the current system.
3. Presented by Katharine Lion – approve funding the “Our Whole Lives” program at a cost of \$1,810. Discussion points: Some of the costs are for teacher training travel expenses
4. Presented by Joanne Krettek – approve funding to upgrade AV equipment at a cost of \$1,750 to enable outdoor services and improve zoom/in-person services. Discussion points: the current financial report for AV had a credit which can reduce the requested amount.

Voting

1. Presented by President Harvey Johnson to approve 2019 BUUF Annual Meeting minutes. Vote: 29 yays, 0 nays, 0 abstentions. **PASSED**
2. Motion to form a committee to develop options for problems with the parking lot pavement, and spend up to \$2,500 made by Dave Sarra, seconded by Joan Guilfoyle. Vote: 28 yays, 0 nays, 1 abstention. **PASSED**
3. Motion to approve funds up to \$10,000 to maintain HVAC system made by Katharine Lion, seconded by Gretchen Ohmann. Vote: 29 yays, 0 nays, 0 abstentions. **PASSED**
4. Motion to approve \$1,810 for OWL made by Dave Sarra, seconded by Lisa Fuller. Vote: 29 yays, 0 nays, 0 abstentions. **PASSED**
5. Motion to approve up to \$1,750 to upgrade AV system made by Nico Rojas; seconded by Harvey Johnson. Vote: 29 yays, 0 nays, 0 abstentions. **PASSED**
6. Presented by Nominations Committee Chair Nicolas Rojas:
 - a. to approve the following Board positions: Beth La Fleur for President (2019-2021) Harvey Johnson for Vice President (2020-2022) and Joan Guilfoyle for Secretary (2020-2022). They would join continuing Board trustees Dave Sarra (2019-2021) and Diane Gibbons (2019-2021).
 - b. To approve the following Endowment Committee positions: Julie Williams (2020-2023, 2nd term) and Dennis Higdon (2018-2021). They would join continuing member Glen Smith (2019-2022, 1st term).
 - c. To approve the following Nominations Committee positions: Nicolas Rojas (2020-2022, 2nd term) and Tina Eberly (2020-2022). They would join continuing member David La Fleur (2019-2021).
 - d. Vote: 29 yays, 0 nays, 0 abstentions. **PASSED**

Comments of incoming President Beth LaFleur:

- Having been on the board for the last two years, she is excited to work with the incoming team of staff, and other board and committee members to keep BUUF moving in an awesome direction.

- The goals of the last 5-year plan were being met, until COVID-19 hit. Still, we routinely have more than 30 attendees at services, our voting membership increased to 44; BUUF was certified as a Welcoming Congregation, and since 2017, a Green Sanctuary.
- Thank you for attending our first zoom annual meeting!

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