

Minutes, UUFLG Board of Trustees Meeting, March 12, 2025

This meeting of the UUFLG Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by video conference.

Present:

David Voris (president)	Lauri Feetham (member at large)
Will Kropp (vice president)	Shams Cohen (minister)
Lynn Golbetz (secretary)	Donna Brewer
Julie Matthews (treasurer)	Kathy Duncan

The board approved the minutes for the February 12, 2025, meeting as amended.

Minister's Report and Contract

Shams reviewed her report, previously circulated by email.

Discussions of Shams's contract going forward will begin after the pledge drive, when we know how much ministerial time can be funded. Dave and Will will work with Shams to prepare a proposal for board approval, pending congregational approval of the budget.

Finance

The board reviewed and approved the February financial reports. The budget continues to track at approximately break-even for the year.

The board needs further clarity on what restrictions apply to various endowment funds. Pursuant to the terms of the endowment policy, there should be some funds available for distribution and use, as determined by the board, outside the normal operating budget. Dave will contact the Endowment Committee to arrange for him and Julie to attend its next meeting.

At the March 16 service, Dave will go over the findings from the Spiritual Café and indicate the pledge drive is beginning. At the March 23 service, he will clarify exactly what a pledge drive is and explain the financial details, including the Fellowship's financial needs and what pledge money is used for. Dave and Julie will draft a summary slide this Saturday and circulate it for a quick board review. The pledge drive will continue through the first Sunday in April.

Building & Grounds

Our electrician says our circuit breaker has been popping because it is getting too much surge from PG&E. It is doing its job in preventing overheating and fires.

The Fellowship passed its fire inspection. We need to service one more fire extinguisher and draw exit maps by December or January. Kathy volunteered to do the maps. There is an emergency building folder in the office that may contain building diagrams as a starting point.

Lauri will be meeting with Bill Gould to get an estimate for creating a minister's office. The board will discuss further building improvements at next month's meeting.

Social Action

The Social Action Committee now comprises Sue Ann, Will, Edy Young, and Ross Hannibal. The committee is rebooting, working to develop its focus and describe its activities. As it is this committee that determines the uses to which Crane Fund monies may be devoted, Julie will send Will, Shams, and Kathy the document outlining the restrictions on that fund.

The Land Acknowledgments task force will present its recommendations in August and conduct a service in September. Support for local indigenous peoples will be one of the ideas the Social Action Committee considers.

Religious Exploration

All RE staff are in compliance with legal requirements, Colleen Hamilton has applied to be the custodian of records.

Sunday Services

It would be helpful to have more service associates.

Caring

Kathy and Suzanne will be co-chairing the Caring Committee. The committee will be inviting people to fill out cards if they need help or want to talk to someone.

Membership

This committee will be inviting congregants to fill out cards with their emergency contact information, to be kept in the office for easy access in case of emergency.

Governance

The board discussed the process of making decisions between board meetings. The board agreed that consensus is important, but there are instances in which the president can make decisions and notify the rest of the board. Ideally that notification would precede execution of the decision, in case there are any immediate objections. Shams would prefer there be more than one decider and also a policy on who makes decisions in emergencies.

The Secretary of State approved the amendments to the UUFLG articles of incorporation.

Will and Dan are working on the website and social media; Will has been taking pictures of Dave playing and will be getting some of Shams speaking. He is also working on the board Google drive and will coordinate with Julie on that.

Kathy will take the lead in organizing the lunch for the Melissa James “workshop” on April 27.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 9, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn Golbetz (Secretary)

Motions Approved

The board approved the February financial reports.

Action Items

Dave: Arrange to attend Endowment Committee meeting, with Julie

Julie: Send Crane Fund restrictions to Will, Shams, and Kathy

Lauri: Plan Soup with Shams event

Get estimate on minister's office

Will: Continue working on website and social media

Will and Julie: Continue working on shared Google folder for board and Fellowship