

	<p>Minutes for the Board Meeting of Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church</p>	<p>Tuesday, June 17, 2025 APPROVED</p>
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Attendees (virtual attendance marked with *):

- Board Members – Heather Kistner, Eddie Chin, Maddie Kulpa, Steve Drevik*, Noel Arring, Rob Bray, Mebbie Jackson*, Devon Miller*
- Ex-Officio Members – Claudia Pressley, David Asbury, Barbara Lamm, Carol Villaverde
- Guests – Lynn Hixson*, Ed Mohundro*, Bill Pierce, AB Coleman, Michael Miller*, Carolyn Rogers, Mary Rogge, Ken Stephenson

Meeting chaired by Board President Heather Kistner

Minutes recorded and submitted by Board Secretary Maddie Kulpa

Opening Words read by Maddie at 6:02pm

Congregational Comment

- Mary Rogge expressed her thanks for everyone's work.

Announcements - various

- Upcoming Board Updates communications
 - Maddie is working with the Comm. Team to work on the best way to send out regular Board Updates. She will also be sending an email through Constant Contact with congregational meeting updates.
- Onboarding/Offboarding surveys will be sent out soon to Board members finishing their terms and to the full new Board.

Consent Agenda - Maddie

- Minutes from May
- **Approval of the minutes was moved by Maddie and seconded by Rob.**
Passed unanimously, no negatives, no abstentions.

Board Committee Charters (10 mins) - Maddie

- Finance Committee charter: only change from last month's draft was to replace the voting requirements and restore 2/3.
Approval of the FC charter was moved by Maddie and seconded by Heather.
Passed unanimously, no negatives, no abstentions.
- Stewardship Committee charter: no changes were requested from last month's draft.
Approval of the Stewardship charger was moved by Maddie and seconded by Noel.
Passed unanimously, no negatives, no abstentions.
- Strategic Planning Committee charter: no changes were requested from last month's draft.
- **Approval of the SPC charter was moved by Maddie and seconded by Noel.**
Passed unanimously, no negatives, no abstentions.

Communications Team Update (10 mins) - Bill Pierce

- The new team has formed and has already met several times. Priorities have been identified and tasks have been assigned.
- Priority "A" tasks are as follows:
 - Leveraging existing content across multiple platforms (AB/Bill/Carol)
 - Develop a plan for changing inclusion in the Realm directory to "opt-out" (Claudia/Michael/Barbara)
 - Develop newsletter updates and responsibility policy (Claudia/Michael/Barbara)
 - Install software on hallway monitors to display important information (AB/Barbara)
 - Create a charter for the Communications Team (AB)
 - Implement a regularly updated communication channel from the Board to the congregation (Carol/AB)

Building and Grounds Co-Chairs

- Don will be leading for building matters - inside and out
Ken will be leading for grounds/hardscaping - pathways, stairs, parking lot, etc
Barbara will be leading for grounds/landscaping
- Going to be structured with multiple volunteer teams for various areas and tasks.
- **Approval of the B&G co-chairs was moved by Rob and seconded by Eddie.**
Passed unanimously, no negatives, no abstentions.

UUA Discussion Update

- A meeting had previously been held with members of the Board, the Finance Committee, and two representatives from the UUA to discuss the Honor Congregation status of TVUUC. Heather asked for comments from the meeting.

- Noel stated that she feels the proposed path back towards Honor status is reasonable, and she is in favor of moving in that direction.
- Maddie shared her opinion that church leadership will need to open a wider conversation with the congregation about the importance of our association with the UUA more broadly.
- Lynn shared his opinion that education will be important as we move forward about what Honor Congregation means now that they have moved away from “fair share” verbiage.
- Barbara spoke about her need to feel part of a larger community beyond our church, and that the UUA is the answer.
- Heather explained that the UUA has a document called “Why We Give” and asked Noel to further explain why she believes it to be important. Noel explained that we show our values with where we spend our money.
- Claudia stated that we no longer have a verbal champion of the UUA within the congregation, who could also hold the Board accountable to maintain that relationship.

Budget Update – Steve

- Pledges and expenses for April were as expected, no surprises.
- Finance will meet in June to discuss a discrepancy with pledge totals coming out of Realm, and also the Honor Congregation matter.
- During the congregational meeting, it was discovered that the budget sheet had an error regarding the Board Expenses line item. This will be addressed by pulling funds from reserve accounts as needed.

Year-End wrap up and review – Heather

- Heather expressed her opinion that the challenges we faced this past year have pointed towards a system problem rather than a people problem. She stated that she has felt the heat of all the problems and challenges the Board has faced, and therefore she decided to step back from leadership. She also shared that there were some formal complaints brought to the Board that were not brought to the table in prior years, and she welcomes more transparency and conversation.
- AB spoke about cultural issues and how they build up over time and cannot be blamed on any one person.
- Heather finished by reiterating her advice for more communication, and her well wishes for the work of the upcoming Board.

Closing Words were read by Maddie at 7:02pm