

Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana

*Seeking the Spirit, Building Community, Changing the World*

Board Minutes

June 21, 2023



I. Call to Order and Chalice Lighting	2
II. Check-in	2
III. Approval of the Board Minutes	2
IV. Reports	2
A. Lead Minister Report	2
V. New Business	2
A. By-Law Revision Timetable	2
B. Formation of Stewardship Committee	3
C. September Board Retreat Date	3
VI. Old Business	3
A. Personnel Committee	3
B. Budget	3
C. Finance Committee / CFO	4
VII. Housekeeping	4
VIII. Topics for Future Consideration	4
A. Remote Participation in Congregational Meetings	4
IX. Executive Session	4
X. Adjournment	4

**Board members attending:** Mary Craig, Drew Schrader, Regina DiLavore, Abby Gitlitz, Jane McLeod, Rich Slabach

**Guests Attending via Zoom:** Bill Lonnberg

**Board members absent:** Linda Pickle

**Ministers attending:** None

**Guests attending:** Barb Backler, Iris Kiesling, Von Welch, Debbie Fish

**Submitted by:** Regina DiLavore, Secretary

**Attached Documents:**

    A. Lead Minister's Report

## **I. Call to Order and Chalice Lighting**

President Abby Gitlitz called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm, and the chalice was lit. A quorum was in attendance.

## **II. Check-in**

## **III. Approval of the Board Minutes**

Regina DiLamore moved to approve the May minutes, Abby Gitlitz seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Approval of June Congregational minutes was moved to July.

## **IV. Reports**

### **A. Lead Minister Report**

Rev. Grant was not present. See the Lead Minister's report is provided in Attachment A.

## **V. New Business**

### **A. By-Law Revision Timetable**

The By-Law committee completed the By-Law revisions on June 19, 2023, and has sent the revisions to Reverend Grant for review. The revisions are not substantive, but the language in the By-Laws was modernized. The revisions will be sent to the Board within two weeks for review prior to the July meeting. The Board discussed the best way for the committee to present the changes and decided that the committee should verbally describe the changes to the Board section by section during the July 19 meeting.

The Board discussed the timeline required to allow a congregational vote on the revised By-Laws on October 22. A tentative schedule has been set:

- An email with a link to the revised By-Laws will be sent on August 17
- Informational Meeting – August 27 at 11:45 am
- Informational Meeting via Zoom – September 6 at 7 pm
- Hard copies available on August 20 and 27 before and after service
- Comment period August 25–September 10
- A new email address will be set up for comments

Abby Gitlitz will confirm with the staff if the dates are available for meetings.

Barb Backler inquired if changes to governance policy will be in place before the ministerial search commences.

Abby Gitlitz stated that revising the By-Laws was the first step and that governance policy will be addressed second. Abby Gitlitz explained that the governance policy is not working well and the Board will be reviewing alternate governance models.

Von Welch stated that By-Laws do not address governance policy and changes to By-Laws are not required to change governance policy.

The Board discussed having the By-Law committee address governance policy or having a second committee review and revise governance policy. Mary Craig, a member of the By-Law committee, volunteered to talk to Reverend Grant about plans for revising the governance policy.

### **B. Formation of Stewardship Committee**

Abby Gitlitz informed the Board that Judy Witt and Joan Caulton expressed interest in joining the stewardship committee. This committee is different from the pledge committee. The Board proposed that the committee include five participants, including one Board member, and start operating by September 1. The term will be two years, staggered to ensure continuity. Each member will be appointed by the Board. Committee position advertisements will occur in July and August. Interested congregants should contact the Board. If more than four congregants are interested, then they could participate on the pledge committee.

The Board discussed which committees are Committees of the Board and they include personnel, finance, and stewardship.

### **C. September Board Retreat Date**

Potential Board Retreat dates are September 2 and 3. Abby Gitlitz will check into Reverend Grant's availability.

## **VI. Old Business**

### **A. Personnel Committee**

Jane wrote a Prologue article to recruit personnel committee members. Jane will follow-up in a few weeks if not enough congregants have volunteered.

### **B. Budget**

Rich Slabach updated the budget status. On June 19 a total of \$560,583 had been pledged. Bill Lonnberg and Rich Slabach looked at expenses and verified all calculations were correct. The amount taken from operational reserves will be reduced by \$53,000.

Iris Kiesling commented that she was disappointed that there is no budget line item for MCUM as it is a well-run organization. Iris encouraged a donation to MACUM as UUCB has been donating the MCUM since 1988. Rich Slabach verified that \$200 has been designated for MCUM in the budget.

### **C. Finance Committee / CFO**

Reverend Grant suggested asking Rich Slabach to be church controller. This will be voted on by the Board at a future date.

## **VII. Housekeeping**

Sunday Announcements (good through July 2)

Prologue articles (good through August 18)

## **VIII. Topics for Future Consideration**

### **A. Remote Participation in Congregational Meetings**

A proposal will be made to change the By-Laws to require that remote participation and voting will be allowed for in Congregational meetings.

## **IX. Executive Session**

The Board entered executive session at 8:21 p.m.

## **X. Adjournment**

President Abby Gitlitz adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:51 p.m.

## Attachment A

Date: June 21, 2023  
To: Board of Directors  
From: Rev. Connie Grant, Interim Lead Minister  
Subject: Monthly Report, June, 2023

Brief report:

Recruitment of a Welcoming Team is complete. Other projects reported in May on progress toward Ends are still in process.

Other information:

- Monica reports that as of June 17 new or increased pledges were received totaling \$17,400, and that an additional (prepaid) pledge of \$1625 was received on June 18.
- A new Office Assistant has been hired and began training with Monica this week. Their name is Jo Bowman, and their regular hours in the office will be every Sunday 10:00 – 1:00 and weekdays on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays.
- General Assembly delegates in Pittsburgh will be Hans Kelson, Miles Eddy, and Renee Reed. Others will be participating remotely.
- I am currently in Orlando dealing with a family emergency and will return to Bloomington on Friday June 23.
- As previously reported, I'll be away from July 6 or so through July 18 or so for family vacation.