TUUC Congregational Meeting Minutes - June 13, 2021

The meeting was conducted on Zoom and began at 12:12 PM. Sue Royer, President, opened the meeting. The agenda was listed. Patty Barry, Membership Chair, announced that we have a quorum. Eleven members requested a proxy vote; those who are serving as a proxy voter are doing so for one other member.

The TUUC Relational Covenant was read.

Rev. Clare Petersberger offered our chalice lighting.

Sue Royer recognized our outgoing leaders: John Mattingly (Board), Ann Beezley (Nominating Committee), Robin Sinn (many roles over her time at TUUC, including Chalice Circles and the Memorial Garden. She is moving to Iowa.), Todd Robertson (House & Grounds Chair for eight years). We recognized Todd with a gift, which he opened on camera: a hard-carved wooden box with a Celtic theme and with metal inlaid adornments.

The Rules of Procedure were reviewed by Angela Castillo-Epps, Trustee and Moderator.

We conducted a practice vote: In Zoom polling, 50 people voted as person 1, 16 as person 2. 5 votes from Cohosts and 1 verbal vote from Sue Royer. Phone: 0. A total of 70 votes in the poll. We are expecting 82 votes. Several issues were raised and discussed. Reissued the practice poll and more people completed it successfully.



I. Motion to approve Rules of Procedure. Seconded by Susan Proctor

Discussion: Herb Shankroff asked about calling the meeting to order. Angela repeated it, calling the meeting to order, and stating that we have a quorum. Patty informed us that we now have 83 members in the meeting.

Voting on the rules of procedure: In favor: 79 Opposed: none Abstentions: 2

The Rules of Procedure passed.

II. Nominating Committee Slate was presented by Ann Beezely. President: Sue Royer, President-Elect: Andrew Hager, Treasurer: Wendell Finner, Trustees-at-Large: Samantha Saalfield, and Eleanor (Ellie) Hughes. Nominating Committee: Marilyn Carlisle. The following two positions are non-elected: House and Grounds Head: Clare Fynn-Avallone, Finance Head: Dan Alper. Seconded by Jane D'Ambrogi

Vote: In favor: 79 Opposed: none Abstentions: none

All were elected.

III. Proposed Operating Budget for FY21-22: See slides. Motion to approve: Angela, Second: John Mattingly, Discussion: Jeanette Anders said she is looking forward to the church re-opening. She inquired about whether there are plans to open the church to outside groups in Sept, in addition to worship and programs? Yes; however, it's not definite yet. Will we notify outside groups? Yes, Kai will be doing that. Question about Rev. Clare's salary, which looked like a decrease. The total of Rev. Clare's salary and housing is increasing. She has the discretion to direct the amount that goes to the housing allowance, in accordance with our letter of agreement with her, UUA recommendations, and IRS regulations.

Vote: In favor: 77 Opposed: 1 Abstentions: 1

The budget passed.

IV. Andrew Hager made the motion for TUUC to **ordain Karyn Marsh** as minister. In the Unitarian Universalist faith tradition, only a congregation has the authority to ordain religious leaders. See slide for the full text of the resolution. Second: Todd Robertson.



Discussion: Sue Royer spoke in favor of the motion. Karyn had done much work on our Mission and Covenant. Jason Braspennickx spoke in favor: The last time we have done this was over 20 years ago, it's very important. He also pointed out all the work Karyn has done for our church over the years. Rev. Clare spoke in favor, having worked with Karyn for many years, on many issues. Karyn Marsh spoke, thanking those who have encouraged her, including those TUUC ancestors Bill Reichel, Al Peabody, and Jay Cherry. Karyn will be working at Johns Hopkins Hospital as a chaplain starting in Sept.

Vote: In favor: 73 Opposed: none Abstentions: 2

The resolution passed.

Moved to adjourn at 1:43 pm. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Riggs, Secretary



Towson Unitarian Universalist Church Annual Congregational Meeting June 13, 2021

Agenda

11:45 am	Members sign into to Zoom waiting room
12:10 pm	Welcome, Call to Order and Covenant (Sue Royer, President)
12:20 pm	Invocation and Chalice Lighting (Rev. Clare Petersberger)
12:25 pm	Recognition of outgoing leaders (Sue Royer, President)
12:30 pm	Brief review of rules of procedure and practice vote (Angela Castillo-Epps, Moderator)
12:45 pm	Vote on the rules of procedure
12:50 pm	Presentation of the Nominating Committee slate (Ann Beezley, Nominating Committee)
1:00 pm	Vote on candidates
1:05 pm	Presentation – Proposed Operating Budget for 2021-22 (Sue Royer, President)
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1:40 pm	Discussion
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2:00 pm	Adjourn



TUUC Relational Covenant



We promise to **T**rust, to welcome each other, to be courteous, patient and warm, to give and gain the benefit of the doubt.

We promise to **R**esolve, to be clear and direct in communication, to be willing to negotiate, to seek mutual resolution to conflict, to share responsibility.

We promise to **U**nderstand, to affirm and celebrate the value added by our diversity, to express opinions while remaining emotionally centered, to listen thoughtfully and judge slowly, to contemplate change, to strive for mutual understanding.

We promise to Engage, to build acquaintance, teamwork, and friendship, to accept a share of the work, to bring a smile, share a laugh, spread some joy, to be grateful.

Being a Virtual Community of Care



- We pledge as Unitarian Universalists, to strive for equity, justice and compassion in all our interactions;
- we seek to center voices of those who have been historically marginalized,
 and
- we commit ourselves to finding ways we can deeply care for one another, today, and throughout these challenging times.

To this end, we agree that individuals who engage in personal attacks, insults, or racist, sexist, or violent words or imagery will be removed from the meeting.

As we mutually create virtual spaces of bravery and well being for all, let us remember to:



- Listen with patience and respect, seeking to understand
- Use "I" statements and speak for yourself, not for others
- Wait to be recognized before speaking
- Remain on mute when not speaking
- Use the chat option (when able) with care and thoughtful regard for others

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Rules of Procedure (1 of 5):



- TUUC's Annual Congregational Meeting is being conducted virtually using Zoom for safety reasons due to COVID-19.
- We are following the guidance of the Unitarian Universalist Association on how to conduct the meeting.
- A simple majority vote is a favorable vote
- Only Members may vote
- Proxy voting is permitted each Member can serve as a proxy for one other Member.
- A quorum shall be 20% of the number of Members last certified to the UUA or 50 Members, whichever is less.
 - In February of 2021, we certified 220 Members to the UUA; thus a quorum is 44 Members

Rules of Procedure (2 of 5): Reaffirmation of Votes



- At our next in-person congregational meeting
- It's not a reconsideration of the matters, it's a confirmation of what we did in this meeting and that we consider it fine.
- The motion will say that the Members affirm that the votes that were taken at the meeting on 6/13/2021 were valid.
- The meeting will be recorded.

Rules of Procedure (3 of 5):



- Amendments were to be submitted in writing to Board Secretary Susan Riggs by Monday, June 7 at 5 pm. No amendments will be accepted from the floor.
- The Rules of Procedure will be voted on in their entirety.
- The Nominating slate will be voted on in its entirety.
- The Proposed Budget will be voted on in its entirety.
- Each matter requires a simple majority vote to be approved. Proxy votes count toward the quorum and the simple majority.

Rules of Procedure (4 of 5): Discussion

- Members indicate a desire to speak by typing in the chat to the Discussion host Samantha.
 Indicate in your chat message if you are speaking Pro or Con.
- The Discussion host will keep track of who wants to speak and will inform the Moderator.
- We will alternate in this fashion: Pro, Con, Pro, Con, then verbally asking if there is a phone participant who wishes to speak (or other person not able use the chat), then repeat.
- Please wait to be recognized. When the Moderator calls on you, start by stating your name, and if are in favor or have a concern.
- Please limit your time speaking to 2 minutes per person. We have a Time Keeper.
- Everyone should have an opportunity to speak before anyone speaks twice.
- Trustees will answer questions or comments as needed, or call on other leaders to help answer questions.
- Discussion Time Limits will be as follows: Rules of Procedure: 10 minutes; Nominating Slate: 10 minutes; Proposed Budget: 15 minutes; Resolution: 10 minutes.

Rules of Procedure (5 of 5): Voting

- Voting will be done using the polling feature of Zoom. Each poll will have two questions to
 facilitate voting by two-member households who are sharing a device. The poll will pop up
 on your screen.
 - If there is <u>one Member</u> at your location, answer question 1 with your vote (in favor, opposed, or abstention). You will answer question 2 with Not Applicable.
 - If there are two Members at your location, one person answers question 1 with your vote and one person answers question 2 with their vote.
 - If you are voting for yourself and as a <u>proxy</u> for another member, use the two member procedure, or indicate the proxy vote via voice vote.
 - The host and co-hosts will register their votes using the Yes/No feature in the participant list, since the host and co-hosts are excluded from polls.
 - Those on the phone and anyone for whom polling is not working will be invited to give their vote by voice.
- Only Members may vote

Let's Practice!

Practice Vote – Can You Hear Me Now?



- Polling for most Members
- Verbal voting by those on the phone or for whom the polling feature is not working
- Host and cohosts vote using Yes/No Feature in the Participant list

Practice!

Discussion and Vote on the Rules of Procedure



Motion: That we approve the Rules of Procedure Second, Discussion

Vote:

- Polling for most Members
- Verbal voting by those on the phone or for whom polling doesn't work
- Host and cohosts vote using Yes/No Feature in the Participant list

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Brief review of rules of procedure and practice vote (Angela Castillo-Epps, Moderator)
Vote on the rules of procedure
Presentation of the Nominating Committee slate (Ann Beezley, Nominating Committee)
Vote on candidates
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Adjourn

Presentation of the Nominating Slate



Nominating Committee Members:

Neil Porter, Ann Beezley, Jane D'Ambrogi, Nina Della Vecchia

The Nominating Committee is grateful to the members listed on the following slides, all of whom have agreed to serve our congregation in the coming year(s).

Nominating Slate (1 of 3)

Board of Trustees (1 of 2)





President (2021 – 2022): Sue Royer

Sue Royer has been a member of TUUC for over twenty years. She has served one year as Board President. This current year, Sue also served as acting Finance Head, Stewardship Chair, and lead Technical Usher. Previously, she has served as President-Elect on the Board of Trustees, and as Convener of the Program Council, helping to implement our new governance model. Sue frequently attends TUUC programs, including the Widening the Circle of Concern discussions and Writing as A Spiritual Practice. Sue is on the Social Action Committee. Sue retired in early 2018, after a 36-year career in business and technology. She has a degree in Computer Science and an MBA.



President-Elect (2021 - 2022): Andrew Hager

Andrew Hager has been a TUUC member since 2013. In that time, he has been active with Lay Worship Associates, served on the Membership Committee and Lay Pastoral Associates, taught Our Whole Lives, and advised YRUU. For the last year, he has been President-Elect and Convener of the Program Council. An avid movie lover, he also runs the weekly Cabin Fever movie discussion group. His wife, Kristy, and children, Mia and Ian, love him enough to tolerate his wide-legged jeans.



Treasurer (2021 - 2023): Wendell Finner

Wendell Finner has served as Treasurer for the past year. They began attending TUUC, and singing in the choir, in 2016, then became a member the following year. They have been active in UU churches for more than 45 years. In addition to the TUUC choir, Wendell has served on our Ministerial Intern Committee and is active with the Social Action Committee. They live in Baltimore City where they can often be found hiking or biking in Herring Run Park.

Nominating Slate (2 of 3)

Board of Trustees (2 of 2)





Trustee-at-Large (2021 - 2023): Samantha Saalfield

Samantha Saalfield has been an active member of TUUC since 2009, shortly after she moved to Maryland. She has served as a Trustee-at-Large on the Board since 2019, and has also served as chair of the Green Sanctuary Committee for eight years, served on the Auction Committee for ten years, including two years as chair, and served on the Nominating Committee for two years. In her professional life, she works as an environmental consultant and geochemist specializing in pollution cleanup at a firm in Hunt Valley. She lives in Cockeysville with her husband Nick and two cats.



Trustee-at-Large (2021 - 2023): Eleanor (Ellie) Hughes

Ellie Hughes began attending TUUC in 2016 with her children, Rufus and Edith, and became a member in February 2018. She sang in the choir for several years and for the past two years has taught in the Youth Religious Exploration program. She joined the Committee on the Ministry in fall 2019 to work on the Sunday morning service structure, helping to develop and organize the focus groups that provided congregational feedback before and after the change to virtual services. You may have seen her as Mayzie la Bird in the TUUC production of Seussical the Musical! She is excited for the opportunity to be of further service to TUUC.

Nominating Slate (3 of 3)

Nominating Committee (1 position up for election)





Nominating Committee (2021 - 2023): Marilyn Carlisle

Marilyn Carlisle has been a member of TUUC for some 30+ years. Soon after joining she served on the YRE committee, and more recently she has been an active member of the Green Sanctuary Committee, perhaps since its founding. Marilyn has taught YRE for several years, going back to when her own children attended and when her grandchildren first attended as well. In retirement she enjoys gardening, reading, singing, and reminding herself that she once played piano. She now shares her time living in Baltimore and in Pittsburgh with her daughter Julie and family.

Discussion and Vote on Candidates



Motion: That we elect the nominees as presented by the Nominating Committee Second, Discussion

Vote:

- Polling for most Members
- Verbal voting by those on the phone or for whom polling doesn't work
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 We are assuming that the church will re-open for in-person services in early September





- Pledge income of \$290,500 from 149 households. Almost 40% of households increased their pledge!
- Auction income of \$25,000.
- Endowment contribution to the budget of \$37,864. Method for calculation is 4% of the average of the value of the Endowment over the previous 13 quarters.
- Forgiven loan income of \$100,000. Loans from the Paycheck Protection Program. More about this coming up.

Staff Salary & Benefits



- Changed formula for calculating TUUC's share of health insurance premiums to pay a greater share on behalf of part-time staff (all non-clergy staff are part-time).
- Added dental coverage for Rev. Clare and staff.
- Increased compensation for non-clergy staff by 1.2 % (cost of living increase).
- Increased compensation for Rev. Clare by 6%.
- Reduced weekly hours for Director of Religious Exploration position from 35 to 30 to better align with the number of families in the program.
- Communications Coordinator now qualifies for benefits cumulative hours across multiple UU churches.

Becoming More Accessible



- Architectural assessment for installing a handicapped-accessible restroom on the main level of the building
- Adopt a new assistive listening system for the Meeting Room
- Stream our worship services from the Meeting Room when congregants are also worshipping in person (Hybrid Ministries or Multi-platform)
 - Needs Assessment
 - Equipment
 - Professional installation
 - Upgrade internet service
 - Consultant to set-up, create procedures and train volunteers
- Bluetooth speaker phones (2) for staff or committee meetings

Widening the Circle of Concern



- Training on multicultural awareness and avoiding microaggressions
- Inviting a guest UU minister of color to our pulpit
- Inviting guest musicians of color to share their gifts during worship
- Funding a scholarship for a young adult, LGBTQIA, or BIPOC to attend the 2022 UUA General Assembly.

House & Grounds Expenditures



- Dander Remediation Project environmental testing of the air and the carpet in the church found significant levels of dander in the offices – both main level and lower level
 - The A-Team has been getting estimates for: moving furniture and files/books/music out of the offices, deep cleaning including carpet removal from the offices, cleaning the ductwork in the entire building, new flooring for the offices, and an air flow analysis for the entire building.
 - Two estimates are being obtained for any single expense over \$3500
 - Total cost is in the range of \$20,000 \$25,000
 - Funds will come from the Building Fund, the 21-22 Operating Budget and other sources to be determined
- Mapping of the electrical panel and minor electrical work
- Additional security camera and related electrical work outside
- Replace fence along north side of property
- Mowing of Japanese stilt grass

Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loans



- TUUC received two loans under the Paycheck Protection Program totaling \$118,600. This loan program forgives the entire amount of the loan if it is spent on payroll and other authorized expenses. TUUC has met these requirements and expects forgiveness.
- The PPP loans helped TUUC to maintain a strong cash position during the pandemic, when other income sources were at risk. We were able to continue paying all staff without interruption or furloughs, which was the intent of the program.
- We are working with PNC Bank on the loan forgiveness process. Their good faith review identified items requiring further documentation (Minister's Housing Allowance, incomplete retirement data, state tax data).
- The proposed budget includes \$100,000 of forgiven loan income
- The proposed budget includes \$73,200 of expenses which are either one-time expenses or do not commit the church to an on-going spending level.

Income

Towson Unitarian Universalist Church

2020-2021 Actual/Forecast and 2021-2022 Proposed Budget

For Annual Congregational Meeting June 13, 2021

				Ac	tual YTD		
				thr	u 5/25/21		
					Forecast		
			Budget		u 6/30/21	Proposal	
		2	020-21	2	2020-21	7	2021-22
Ord	linary Income/Expense						
	Income:						
	Plate Total	\$	2,400	\$	14,735	\$	7,500
	Endowment Contribution	\$	40,000	\$	39,511	\$	37,864
	Fundraising:						
	Auction	\$	18,000	\$	14,887	\$	25,000
	Other			\$	2,867	\$	860
	Total Fundraising	\$	18,000	\$	17,754	\$	25,860
	Pledge:						
	Charitable Contribution	\$	5,000	\$	9,048	\$	5,000
	Current Year	\$	284,750	\$	270,778	\$	290,500
	Total Pledge	\$	289,750	\$	279,826	\$	295,500
	Miscellaneous Income			\$	7,129		
	Restricted Income (to Endw or Bld or COVID F	nds)		\$	30,799		
	Rental Income			\$	(285)	\$	4,340
	Forgiven Loan Income				· · ·	\$	100,000
	Total Income	\$	350,150	\$	390,024	\$	471,064



Expenses

1 of 3

2020-2021 Actual/Forecast and 2021-2022 Proposed Budget
For Annual Congregational Meeting June 13, 2021

		<u> </u>		J	Δc	tual YTD		
						u 5/25/21		
						Forecast		
			F	Budget		u 6/30/21	Р	roposal
				2020-21		2020-21		021-22
Expe	neo.			.020 21		1020 21		OL I LL
	nse. perations:							
0	Advertising / Outrea	nch	\$	100			\$	500
	Background Checks		\$	60	\$	16	\$	50
		erage Fees/S.D. box	\$	770	\$	836	\$	782
	Board Expense	erage rees/o.b. box	\$	300	\$	372	\$	1,075
	Building & Grounds	maintenance	\$	4,050	\$	8,628	\$	13,700
	_	OVID Cares, Comm. P			\$	9,768	Ψ	10,700
	Fundraising Expens			13)	\$	490	\$	550
	JanitorialSupplies		\$	200	\$	24	\$	900
	Music Expense		\$	400	\$	139	\$	400
	Office Expenses:		*	100	Ψ	100	Ψ	100
	Church Software	e (Breeze)	\$	600	\$	600	\$	600
	Equipment	(=:::==)	\$	1,150	\$	3,178	\$	15,300
	Licenses		\$	740	\$	905	\$	1,243
	Postage Expens	e	\$	300	\$	359	\$	550
	Printing Cost		\$	1,384	\$	1,675	\$	329
	Subscriptions		\$	288	\$	631	\$	463
	Website & Doma	nin Fees	\$	236	\$	216	\$	236
	Total Office Expense	es	\$	4,698	\$	7,564	\$	18,721
	Office Supplies		\$	100	\$	823	\$	300
	Paper Expense		\$	150			\$	400
	Payroll Processing	Fees	\$	910	\$	945	\$	974
	Programming - Sou	l Matters,	\$	400	\$	680	\$	835
	Scholarships						\$	1,500
	Supplies (e.g. for Ho	osp, Auction, YRE)	\$	100	\$	3,380	\$	5,357
	Training (lay leaders	s, OWL, congr.)					\$	3,950
	UUA Annual Progra	m Fund	\$	13,500	\$	13,500	\$	20,000
Тс	tal for the above Ope	erational Expenses	\$	25,738	\$	47,165	\$	69,994



Expenses

2 of 3

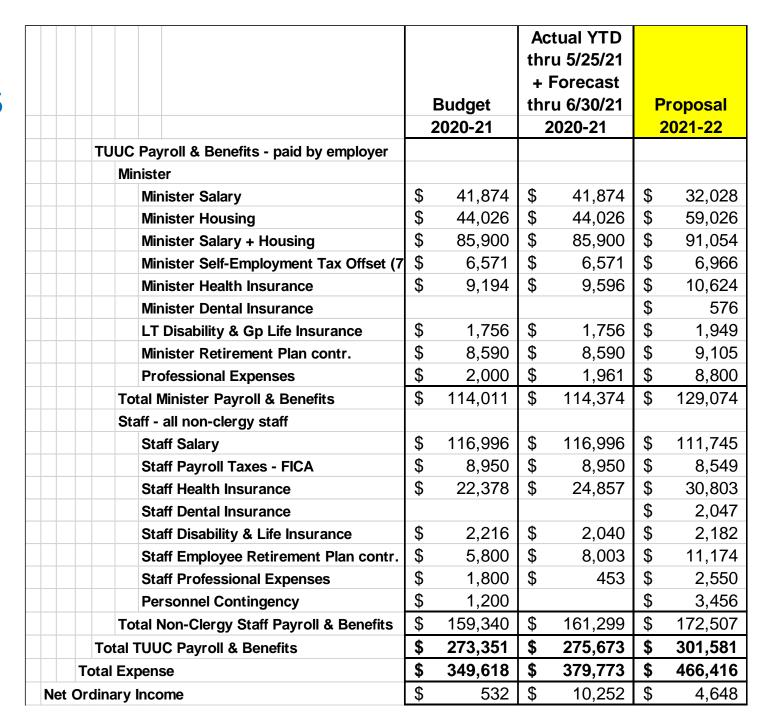
2020-2021 Actual/Forecast and 2021-2022 Proposed Budget	İ
For Annual Congregational Meeting June 13, 2021	

			thr	tual YTD u 5/25/21		
		Decidence 4		Forecast	_	
		Budget 2020-21		u 6/30/21		roposal 2021-22
0.4.45		2020-21		2020-21		021-22
Contract Expenses:					\$	9 000
A/V Technician	\$	10.000	\$	10.000	\$	8,000
Bookkeeper	Ф	18,000	Ф	18,000	\$	18,000
Child care - Auction & Events	- D-	_4			\$	450
Consultant Fees - Hybrid Needs, Accessible	e Kestroom				Ф	15,300
House & Grounds Contracts:	\$	876	\$	876	\$	876
Exterminator	φ \$	600	\$	600	\$	600
HVAC Security System Service	\$	1,731	\$	2,276	\$	1,851
Trash dumpster rental	\$	600	\$	600	\$	600
•	\$		\$		\$	
Total House & Grounds Contracts	\$	3,807	\$	4,352 1,140	\$	3,927 1,140
IT Support Janitorial Services	\$	1,140 2,000	\$	1,140	\$	10,800
Lawn Maint./Snow Removal	\$	900	\$	2,385	\$	4,965
Legal Fees	φ	900	\$	4,332	\$	1,000
Musicians			φ	4,332	\$	800
Nursery Caregivers					\$	3,100
Piano maintenance	\$	540			\$	450
Printer Service Contract	\$	3,600	\$	3,502	\$	2,220
Rental Expense (Monitors)	Ψ	3,000	Ψ	3,302	\$	50
Risk Management (Fire Insp.)					\$	1,075
Speaker's fee(s)					\$	1,350
Total Contract Expenses	\$	29,987	\$	34,811	\$	72,627
Insurance (Building/Umb + Workers Comp)	\$	7,242	\$	7,242	\$	7,633
Total Mortgage Expense - Member Loans	\$	1,491	\$	1,491	Ψ	7,000
Utilities	Ψ	1, 101	Ψ_	1, 101		
Personal Property Tax (leased duplicator)	\$	417	\$	502		
Gas & Electric	\$	7,000	\$	8,724	\$	8,400
Telephone/Internet	\$	3,456	\$	3,204	\$	5,160
Water + Bay Fees + PPT	\$	936	\$	961	\$	1,021
Total Utilities	\$	11,809	\$	13,391	\$	14,581
	*	,		-,	_	,
Total Operations Expense	\$	76,267	\$	104,100	\$	164,835



Expenses

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Questions on the Proposed Budget?



Discussion and Vote on the Budget



Motion: That we approve the proposed operating budget for FY 21-22 Second, Discussion

Vote:

- Polling for most Members
- Verbal voting by those on the phone or for whom polling doesn't work
- Host and cohosts vote using Yes/No Feature in the Participant list

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2:00 pm	Adjourn



Resolution to Ordain our very own Karyn Marsh





Karyn Marsh – service to TUUC:

- Lay Worship Associate
- Youth Group Advisor
- Membership Chair for six years
- Member of the Choir
- Member-at Large on our Board of Trustees (2 years) and Board Secretary (2 years)
- Member of the TUUC Governance Task Force and member of the TUUC Bylaws Committee

Resolution

WHEREAS in the Unitarian Universalist faith tradition only a congregation has the authority to ordain religious leaders;

WHEREAS Karyn Bergmann Marsh has served in a variety of leadership roles in the Towson Unitarian Universalist church for over eleven years: including as a Lay Worship Associate; Youth Group Advisor; as our Membership Chair for six years; as a member of the Choir; as a Member-at Large on our Board of Trustees for two years and as Secretary of the Board of Trustees for two years; as a member of the TUUC Governance Task Force and as a member of the TUUC Bylaws Revision Committee and heard the call to ministry;

WHEREAS Karyn graduated from Starr King School for the Ministry; completed Clinical Pastoral Education; completed her Ministerial Internship with All Souls Unitarian Church, in Tulsa, Oklahoma; has been granted Preliminary Fellowship by the Ministerial Fellowship Committee of the Unitarian Universalist Association; and

WHEREAS Karyn has requested ordination by our congregation which shaped and supported her call to put on the mantle of ministry;

Therefore, be it RESOLVED that we, the members of The Towson Unitarian Universalist Church, vote to ordain Karyn Bergmann Marsh to the Unitarian Universalist ministry.

Discussion and Vote on the Resolution



Motion: That we approve the resolution to ordain Karyn Marsh Second, Discussion

Vote:

- Polling for most Members
- Verbal voting by those on the phone or for whom polling doesn't work
- Host and cohosts vote using Yes/No Feature in the Participant list

Adjourn



Motion: Having no other business before it, the annual congregational meeting of the Towson Unitarian Universalist Church is now adjourned.

Thank you!

