

GBAUUF Board Meeting Minutes

February 14th, 2024 || 6:30 p.m.

Chair: Natalie Buhl
Vice Chair: Annette Dreier
Past Chair: Kimberly Brumm
Secretary: Nicole Bickham

Senior Treasurer: Ramona Makos
Co-Treasurer: Roz Barker
Member At Large: Carl Bennett
Member At Large: Ron Ropson

We promise to:

- Show up with our best selves, intent on listening with openness and willingness to the voices in the room and those that are not.
- Speak with an authentic voice, grounded in our lived experience, mindful of differing cultural interpretations and realities that are present.
- Honor our duty to do the work of the board and to place anti-racism, anti-oppression, and multicultural accountability at the center of that work.
- Recognize that each of us is fully human, with hurts and vulnerability, and the need to laugh and sing.

Adopted December 2019 by GBAUUF board of trustees

Items in italics were action items from last month:

- I. Chalice Lighting
 - A. Attendance: Ramona, Carl, Natalie, Kim, Rev Jim, Nicole, Ron, Roz
- II. Check-In
- III. Open forum and welcome to guests
 - A. Guest(s): Francesca, Michael
- IV. Consent Agenda
 - A. Minutes
 1. Motion made by Carl to accept the January minutes, Ramona seconded
- V. Minister's Report; see [Minister's Report](#)
 - A. Natalie: When we don't offer Zoom attendance, do any of our members attend Open Circle? Not really. They would have to go to Open Circle calendar to find the link. We could include the link in the Connect to that calendar. **Francesca will add that link for a month or 2 and see how it goes.**
 - B. Faye & Ella attended sleepover at FUS.
 - C. Cafe Q is starting at Open Circle a week from Fri. Safe space for LGBTQIA+ youth. Open Circle hosting & 2 other churches collaborating. Pastor Rob at UCC said 3 UCC ministers in GB are interested in doing a similar program here.
- VI. Discussion Agenda
 - A. Stewardship Team - see [Budget vs Actual](#)
 1. Bank balances as of 1/31/24 are:

- Checking \$15,906.36
- Reserve Fund \$22,885.21
- Scrip Checking \$ 1,151.12
- CD \$10,000.00
- Total \$49,942.69

2. See additional info in [Stewardship Meeting Report](#)
3. Ramona was able to restore funds to Money Market that were previously removed.
4. No progress on identifying what the bookkeeper would do. Ramona has been making a list of duties of the treasurers. She would like to write procedures for those to support future treasurers. Carl mentioned at Open Circle they have split bookkeeper & treasurer roles, so we can look into how they divide duties. *Ramona will talk with them.*
5. Ramona would like to serve a second term going back to being Jr Treasurer at the beginning of the 2024-25 fiscal year, allowing Roz to be Treasurer. This would give her time to write the procedures.
6. What else included in maintenance besides windows? We under-budgeted, had to pay the heating company and some other expenses. We have a better number for the next budget.
7. Some of the percentages are confusing. 2nd from right column seems most relevant. *Ramona will look into what those percentages refer to and whether we can change it to something that makes more sense for us.*
8. Parking lot: permeable pavement doesn't wear very well in cold climates because of salt & plowing. Have backed away from that option. May have to do patch & seal initially, then more permanent solution in 3 yrs when we renegotiate our commercial loan.
 - We have a parking lot committee now: Ben & Sam.
9. *Revisit when Annette should write something for the UU Connect about hiring a bookkeeper.*

B. Membership Team - see [Attendance Report](#)

1. 9% increase in membership 2023 vs 2022

C. Programming Team - see [Sunday Services Team Report](#)

1. Update from report: Katina will talk 3/31 about SCRIP (online options). She wants to be able to project onto the screen from her computer. It won't be Zoomed. Michael & Ron: HDMI cable work.
2. Correction from report: This Sunday will be a talk on the Ice Age Trail.

D. Religious Enrichment Team - no report.

E. Social Justice Team - see [Social Justice Committee Report](#)

F. Building/Facilities Team (no separate report)

1. Updates: Broken windows were replaced with unbreakable polycarbonate on the east side of the building by Ron. Carl, Michael and Ron put trim around the heat intake vent in the basement.
2. Follow-ups:
 1. *Francesca followed up with Police Dept about broken windows.*

- a. See police report [here](#)
2. Did Ron look at the lights and determine what is needed? Would like to wait until it's warmer. Will need to check wires with meters etc. Don't know yet if we only need new bulbs or fixtures.
3. Ron: soffits all around are rusty. Roz: we'd like next budget to be like a "wish list" so would be helpful to have an estimate on that work. Michael: There could be other issues with the roof causing that. Ramona: inspection report mentions some past rot. Carl: We replaced about 50% of the fascia boards, but they weren't treated boards. Probably more needs to be done.
 - a. We'll need to get an estimate. Carl knows a family in the construction business who have done work for him. **Carl will see if they'd be willing to take a look.**
4. "Pull for Police" straps: Kim & Michael prepared a slide on this for the Town Hall meeting.
5. Natalie: any response yet from Jeff from Open Circle about inclement weather policy? Our policy is very cut and dry. They are making a policy now, considering various options. Natalie gave them ours to look at but they haven't decided yet. We have a few back-ups in case they ever do cancel when we're depending on them. Tabled for now.

VII. Old Business

- A. Signage next to Diane's quilts: Kim has labels made and ready to mount on walls.
- B. Francesca: updates on resolving Board email problems. Putting the Board email address in the BCC seems to work.
- C. Did Roz create a list of the volunteer tasks that could be included in a centralized sign-up system?**
- D. New Member Breakfast.
 1. Francesca sent invitations to new members.
 2. Francesca also sent out sign up sheet for food.
 3. There is a nut allergy. Label items.
- E. Zoom option for board meetings discontinued. Francesca removed Zoom link from calendar.
- F. UURP group has been announced in Connect and at last service.

New Business

- G. Nicole: The food forest will need ongoing maintenance including watering, weeding, and pruning. Do we need a new subcommittee or working group to coordinate?
 1. Natalie: We've been patching together grounds maintenance in past. Some fellowships have a grounds subcommittee. She knows one where people are assigned a week to do those tasks. The Green Team?
 2. Francesca: only about 4 people did the watering last year. Also a lot of the

garden produce went to waste. Natalie: The subcommittee might also organize with fellowship as a whole the fall & spring clean-ups, have a plan for garden boxes.

3. Ron: bushes in front are so thick and old that it makes access difficult. Trimming might not be enough, may need to be pulled.
4. Roz has names of everyone on original committee. Could see if anyone from there wants to chair it. *Roz & Nicole will discuss when we meet about book club and try to find someone.*

H. Natalie: Changing the Key Code.

1. We need to review list of people who have the code currently, weed out anyone not still using it. (The list in Google Drive is not current.) Then notify people those who are. *Francesca will update key code list and send 2nd: Michael will review it. Third, we'll email them and change the code.*
2. Natalie: We probably need to do this annually.

I. Francesca: Help for the Homeless collection box arrived today. Annual drive for hygiene items & cleaning supplies. Can we donate our extra disinfectant? Yes.

VIII. Review Action Items - see above, highlighted in orange

IX. Check Out

X. Adjourned at 7:30pm