

# GBAUUF Board Meeting Minutes

March 13th, 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, Annette
- II. Check-In
- III. Open forum and welcome to guests
  - A. Guest(s): Francesca, Michael
- IV. Consent Agenda
  - A. Minutes
    1. Motion made by Ron to accept the Feb minutes, Carl seconded
- V. Minister's Report; see [Minister's Report](#)
  - A. There are a couple congregations in GB interested in starting up a Cafe Q, which our fellowship could then support.
  - B. Rev Jim also shared [year-to-year attendance comparison](#). The numbers for Green Bay are encouraging.
- VI. Discussion Agenda
  - A. Stewardship Team - see [Budget vs Actual](#)
    1. Bank balances as February 29:

Checking:	\$15,496.00
Reserve MM:	\$22,895.32
CD	\$10,000.00
Scrip checking	\$ 689.75

Building Loan balance \$174,787.60

2. The stewardship team will be focused on contacting members and friends who have not pledged yet. 57% of members have pledged as of now.
3. Ramona provided this [report of building maintenance costs](#) Ron requested.
4. Parking lot: tentative plan, awaiting new quotes. Ben Andrews joined Stewardship team and is very knowledgeable about parking lots. About \$2600 has been pledged for the parking lot so far. Stewardship will come back to the board with a plan later. Tentative plan is to repave the front, up to the drive-through.
5. Ramona talked with Open Circle to learn about how they split bookkeeper & treasurer roles. They shared their documents. Ramona and Roz haven't reviewed yet to see how that fits with our needs.
6. Ramona: reported percentages in financial report differently so we can better make sense of them.

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

1. Natalie will meet with Mary to show her how to put attendance data in the Board folder.
  - a) Rev Jim mentioned he has similar data in Google Drive (along with data for other members of the consortium), but he breaks out Zoom vs in-person.
  - b) Mary doesn't want to use Breeze but there are some advantages to having attendance data there. [Annette is willing to try inputting attendance data to Breeze and see how much time it takes.](#)

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

1. Natalie & Rev Jim met with Audrey Lynn, Open Circle service planning coordinator to begin talking about whether we want to consider some new ideas to keep what we do current, esp for people who don't have a lot of experience in churches.
2. Roz reported on 1st meeting of Book Club: 19 people attended. Perhaps we want to publicize it elsewhere, as it could be attractive to people looking for spiritual community but not "church."
  - a) Annette mentioned the idea brought up there for a summer ecology/nature camp. Currently we don't have summer RE. Rev Jim mentioned the Appleton fellowship has found curricula for their summer programs for kids. We have several members with teaching experience.

D. Religious Enrichment Team - no report. Averaging 5 kids.

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

1. Ron: Laurie is wondering if she could have a section of the bulletin boards dedicated to JOSHUA stuff. We talked about adding a new space on the back wall that is more visible, dedicated to social justice news. [Ron will talk with Laurie and come back to board with some ideas for a social justice display area.](#)

F. Building/Facilities Team (no separate report)

1. Ron has checked the canopy lights to identify their type. Yesterday he got them reconnected & working. There are 5 lights in the canopy and 1 by the deposit box. 1 of the 5 is not connected. The deposit box light is on a different circuit and isn't working for some reason. But that one's less important. Ron is donating the bulbs. They're on a timer that's in the basement, programmed to come on at night.
2. Microphones: The HH1 mic stopped working. Ron learned it would cost > \$600 for parts to repair. The model is no longer available. But we can get new mics for \$149 that are compatible with our receiver, and are rechargeable. We're down to 3 working mics, though one is noisy and 2 run through batteries quickly.
  - a) Annette proposed we buy 1 new mic, make sure it works with our system, then consider replacing more in future. Others agreed.  
**Ron will purchase 1 new mic on the fellowship's behalf.**
3. Ron also purchased a shelf to organize some supplies downstairs and did some organizing.
4. Did Carl find out if the family he knows in the construction business would be willing to give estimate on soffit & fascia work? Only 1 is still actively building. We should have a quote at the next meeting.

VII. Old Business

- A. *Did Francesca add that Open Circle Zoom link to Connect for a month or 2 and if so, how did it go? [keep on for April]*
- B. Roz shared multiple options for centralized volunteer sign-ups and Breeze was the most popular. It sends reminder emails. Organizer can look and see what spots need filling. We could start with 1 or 2 groups first and see how it goes, then expand. Openers & Closers and Green Team could be a good place to start.
  1. **Roz will start inputting Openers & Closers into the Breeze volunteer sign-up system.**
- C. Natalie, Emilyn, Roz, & Nicole are willing to be on planning team for landscaping, aka Green Team. We met on 3/10, planned spring workday, discussed general plans for food forest and other areas. We will meet again before service on 4/7. There will be an announcement in the Connect to see if anyone else wants to join.
- D. Francesca made the new keycode and it will be sent out soon via email.

VIII. New Business

- A. Francesca: Sue Touchinski resigned - will clean Fellowship through end of March. She is cutting back on her business. In past we had volunteers do this. We could try to recruit a single person or seek multiple volunteers. Tasks: vacuuming, cleaning bathrooms every other week. She didn't clean downstairs unless specifically asked. **Natalie will write up an announcement for the Connect and see if we get 1-2 people willing to join the Clean Team.**
- B. Francesca: there are many spam emails going around right now, some using

Docusign. Spammers gather email addresses from our website. They may look like they're coming from the fellowship, so be careful when you receive emails. The info@ address is a clue. If you get one, let Francesca know. Francesca will remove email addresses from the website other than the info@ address.

1. Annette: do we need to warn members? Francesca could include link to an article in the Connect. But not everyone reads that. Francesca will prepare a pulpit announcement.
  2. When we post announcements in the cConnect, we may not want to include our personal email addresses.
- C. Nicole: Do we have or are we working on a land acknowledgment? Yes, we read it out loud. **Nicole will look into accuracy of the land acknowledgement and report back to Board in April.**
- D. Natalie: Andy Waterman's son created a piece of artwork and Andy would like to donate it.
1. Would we like to accept it? Yes.
  2. Where should it go? Anyone who wants to help pick a spot can stay after meeting to choose spot.

- IX. Review Action Items - see above, highlighted in orange
- X. Check Out
- XI. Adjourned at 7:57pm.