

GBAUUF Board Meeting Minutes

May 8th, 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, Natalie, Rev Jim, Nicole, Roz, Annette, Ron
- II. Check-In
- III. Open forum and welcome to guests
 - A. Guest(s): Francesca, Michael
- IV. Consent Agenda
 - A. Minutes
 1. Motion made by Annette to accept the April minutes, Ron seconded.
- V. Minister's Report; see [Minister's Report](#)
 - A. Attendance continues to be strong.
- VI. Discussion Agenda
 - A. Stewardship Team - see [Budget vs Actual](#) and [meeting notes](#)
 1. Bank balances as of April 30:

a. Checking	\$16,533.74
b. Money Market	\$24,151.41
c. CD	\$10,000.00 matures 5/20/24 rate: 4.981%
d. Scrip	\$ 512.76
e. Building Loan	\$173,966.98 rate:4.45%
 2. 92% of members have pledged. Of those who have not, 4 contribute by recurring auto transfers.

3. Distributed document with some changes to final 2024-25 budget. SCRIP income has been up, for example. Total net income projected by slightly positive rather than negative. Our insurance may go up, however.
 4. Parking lot estimates came in so high that we're looking at refinancing our loan to help pay for it.
 5. We are at end of 5-yr Strategic Plan. We also need to look at implications of Stevens Point leaving consortium. Natalie willing to be on team that develops next plan. **Roz will talk to Ben about leading it.**
- B. Membership Team - see [Attendance Report](#) and [Graph](#)
1. Annette tried inputting attendance data to Breeze to see how much time it takes. She has a couple more months' worth of data to enter for 2024. Takes about 15 mins per Sunday. She is willing to continue for the time being.
 2. Natalie: Mary said she's willing to do Membership for 1 more year.
- C. Programming Team - see [Sunday Services Team Report](#)
1. Natalie wrote up a definition of SCRIP for announcements during Fellowship time. Francesca shared at a service and also in Connect. We talked about repeating the explanation every couple months or when there aren't a lot of other announcements.
- D. Religious Enrichment Team - no report.
- E. Social Justice Team - see [Social Justice Committee Report](#)
1. Natalie: Tim Cordon, member of a UU fellowship in Madison, is encouraging people in GB area to consider what they have done in Madison called BUGs (Building Unity Groups). Potlucks for community groups working in overlapping areas of social justice to network. Tim says he is willing to help us set that up. He sent Natalie an email with more details. He also met with people at Oneida. We decided to table it for now.
- F. Building/Facilities Team - no report
1. Ron contacted Joe Eckberg about old electronics. He has picked up some, still has to get an item in basement.
 2. Ron has done more organizing in the basement. Still more to do.
 3. Spring clean-up went well. Smaller group, cold day.

VII. Old Business

- A. Francesca added the Open Circle Zoom link to Connect and had 2 people attend the last Open Circle Zoom.
- B. Did Carl find out what material the contractor proposes to use for the fascia, and whether the quote includes replacing rotten rafters?**
- C. Roz input the next couple months of Openers & Closers into the Breeze volunteer sign-up system? No feedback. Seems to be going well. **Roz will continue to contact groups about adding.**
- D. Nicole drafted an [updated land acknowledgement](#) incorporating changes we discussed at the last board meeting, as well as some related thoughts about our efforts toward allyship with First Nations.

1. We talked about changing the “we” to “many.”
 2. We talked about times to read it. Some ideas were: the annual meeting, Indigenous People’s Day, the beginning of the year, during the month when Repair is the theme, etc.
 3. We could put a notice in the Connect to seek a point person. We also talked about the idea of a fall class or series. **Nicole will talk with David and come back to board later in summer with proposal for that.**
 4. We talked about putting the new wording into the Connect 1-2x to solicit feedback from the fellowship. Ask people to respond by June 30. **Francesca will place this in the Connect.**
- E. Kim sent link to Ramona & Roz for accepting donations via PayPal and they looked into it. It requires the social security number of a person who is responsible so we decided not to move on that for now.

VIII. New Business

- A. Natalie: Upcoming Annual Meeting: [folder](#) in Google Drive contains Slides and letter to members.
1. **Ron will ask Laurie to send updates to Natalie for Social Justice.**
 2. **Roz & Ramona will look at Stewardship slides and send updates to Natalie.**
 3. Natalie: In past we sent notice (incl info about proxy voting) to members via snail mail. Can we email to those for whom we have email addresses? **Francesca will pull info from Breeze for sending these, once we have clarification about child care.**
 4. Nicole isn’t able to attend and take minutes. Annette willing to do it.
 5. **Annette will ask Shannon if he can provide child care during the meeting.**
- B. Natalie: Ideas for incoming Chair and Member at Large
1. **Natalie will create announcement about open board positions.**
- C. Natalie: Idea for summer fundraiser
1. Natalie was in Eau Claire when they were having their spring fundraiser, a thrift shop 2 x/yr. They had it set up in their fellowship. Everything \$1. Happens all on one day. People can drop items off for 1 week, volunteers set it up. Sale on Saturday. Anything that doesn’t sell goes to Goodwill.
 - a) Francesca: We did it 1 or 2 times at Comanche. It was enormous, setup was a lot of work.
 - b) We have to ask people to be judicious about what they donate. We don’t have to put everything in the sale. Could have free tables as well.
 - c) **Natalie would be willing to take lead on it during summer. Annette also willing to help.**
 - d) **Francesca will research where we could place notices.**
 - e) **Natalie will find out how much Eau Claire made on their last sale.**
- D. Ramona: Does Carl plan to continue as RE Director and what to do if not.
1. Jim: He’s not planning to continue next year. He will be meeting with RE team to discuss soon. Melissa Renk is also joining the team. Might go to a

rotating model. The lead person doesn't have to do the prep. Rev Jim makes the lesson plans.

2. We do have the position in our budget currently.

E. Nicole: Need someone to perform secretarial duties in June.

1. Natalie can collect reports & create the agenda. She will take minutes and Annette will chair the meeting.

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

X. Check Out

XI. Adjourned at 8:02pm.