

GBAUUF Board Meeting Minutes

September 11th, 2024 || 6:30 p.m.

Chair: Annette Dreier
Vice Chair: Nancy Jo Wilkinson
Past Chair: Natalie Buhl
Secretary: Nicole Bickham

Co-Treasurer: Ramona Makos
Co-Treasurer: Roz Barker
Member At Large: Ron Ropson
Member At Large: Melissa Rink

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: Nicole Bickham, Annette Dreier, Ramona Makos, Nancy Wilkinson, Melissa Rink, Ron Ropson, Natalie Buhl, Roz Barker, Rev. Jim
- II. Check-In
- III. Open forum and welcome to guests
 - A. Guest(s): Francesca P, Michael P
- IV. Consent Agenda
 - A. Minutes
 1. Motion made by Roz to accept the Aug minutes, Nicole seconded.
- V. Minister's Report; see [Minister's Report](#)
 - A. 1 correction to report: Nathan presented on 8/18 rather than Natalie.
 - B. Approx 9 chalice circles across the consortium, most have 6-8 people.
 - C. Roz: 5 people attended book club this week.
- VI. Discussion Agenda
 - A. Stewardship Team - see [Budget vs Actual](#)
 1. New format for report. Over/under budget should be more accurate now on month by month basis.
 2. Bank Balances as of 8/31:
 - a. Checking: \$13,449.03
 - b. Reserve \$26,919.16

- c. SCRIP \$ 735.93
- d. CD \$10,377.37

2. Balance of Commercial Loan \$170,609.97 (almost 7 yrs in on 15-yr loan; rate will change in 2025)

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

1. Starting next month, Francesca will create report, Annette will enter data into Breeze (for members only, not visitors or "friends").
2. We still don't have someone doing Mary's former role of following up with repeat visitors. Jim is willing to contact people but would need a list of people.
3. Board will follow up in Oct to see how the new attendance system is going and whether we can generate a list of repeat visitors for Rev Jim to contact.

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

1. Good Times Band letter via Nancy: still clarifying what Denise will still be doing. Band will have to decide how to move forward, who is willing to take which roles. Nancy also let us know she's not able to take over choosing hymns & pieces.
 - a) Natalie: the facilitator can for now email the whole band to see who is willing to do the prelude, musical meditation.
2. Brad has an idea about a pianist who we'd probably need to pay. We didn't budget for that. He probably needs to know what we could pay before he approaches them.
 - a) Natalie pointed out we recently changed how we pay speakers. We cut them a check even if historically they have declined it. If they donate it, it goes into our budget as a whole vs Sunday Services budget.
 - b) Ramona pointed out we aren't using the \$1500 we had budgeted for an RE teacher. That could be reallocated.
 - c) Natalie will follow up with Brad. We agreed \$25-50 is a range we can offer to the pianist he knows.
3. Rev Jim has a monthly music meeting with folks from other fellowships to coordinate with the theme.
4. Natalie talked to Candy & Janice about Denise's last day. They will plan some kind of recognition.
5. Oct 20th speaker has a scheduling conflict. Natalie found a TED talk that fits the theme. Natalie is willing to read the transcript and we agreed that's preferable to playing the video.
 - a) Natalie will ask Nathan, and the TED talk will be the back-up.

D. Religious Enrichment Team - no report (RE starts later this month)

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

1. Francesca will put notice in Connect and add service announcements about the special collection happening for 9/29 presentation.

F. Building/Facilities Team - see [Facilities Report](#)

1. Michael: Do we want to have Bay Area Services repair the A/C for the Sanctuary this year yet, or wait till next Spring when they do the annual maintenance on it? Ron will check out the A/C this week and let Michael know what he finds.
 - a) Ramona asked what our service agreement covers. Michael: they come 2x/year to test A/C and furnaces. He doesn't think the cost of the contract is worth it. We pay it in late Aug. Already paid for the church year. We get a discount on a service call if they have to come on an emergency basis. We'd like to circle back to this in the spring and consider paying for 1 inspection per year instead of renewing the contract.
2. Ron proposes he removes the A/C in the ATM area. He can do that in Oct, replace with painted wood. We can have the unit recycled at NWTTC.
 - a) Ron will also see what can be done with the unit in the kitchen.
3. Nicole: the watering wand may have a leak. We decided not to replace it for now and Nicole will throw it out so no one tries to use it again. Nicole also found the exterior water on, with the splitter functioning as the on/off. See new business item B.
 - a) Nicole disposed of the leaking watering wand, and turned off the exterior spigot.

VII. Old Business

A. Greeter Concerns/Questions

1. Annette got a door sign/sticker re: no weapons allowed and it is now posted.
2. Did Annette talk to Candy about updating the greeter communication?
3. Entrance security:
 - a) Melissa looked into cost for a system with codes for the door. She learned you can buy the unit at Grainger for about \$326, can have up to 500 different codes. The system can track who used it, if different people have their own code. This would allow us to have the door lock automatically during services. Open Circle has a system like this but their door isn't visible from the pulpit.
 - b) Roz: another option would be a camera.
 - c) Michael: we have a riot bar already on both doors, which allows people to exit even when the door is locked. We just don't have a key for the one on the front door. Michael will look into the cost of it.

B. First Nations allyship

1. Nicole: will report back about an allyship series for early 2025 facilitated by David Voelker.

VIII. New Business

- A. Ramona: Backup people for child care (when Shannon's not here) and who should schedule the backup. Natalie: Frances is the back-up person. Shannon

has her contact info and was instructed to contact her when he can't be here. Annette has also discussed this with him.

1. Ramona will call Frances to see if she can cover this Sunday, and verify whether she's still willing to be the sub.
2. Annette will remind Shannon to email Frances and cc Annette for this in the future.
3. We used to do annual reviews with staff, but haven't lately. Annette will start doing these again.

B. Our unhoused guest and a friend are back. Ron: he says he's not responsible for the 2nd person being here. The police were called by neighbors, and the police called us, told Annette there were signs of drug use, intoxication. Officer recommended we not continue to allow this. Natalie: now that police have been involved, I think we should inform them. Others agree. Ron will talk to Laurie first, to see if his case manager wants to intervene. Otherwise Annette will contact the police and make a report.

- IX. Review Action Items - see above, highlighted in orange
- X. Check Out
- XI. Adjourned at 7:59: p.m. (Roz, Natalie).