

GBAUUF Board Meeting Minutes

October 9th, 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, 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, Laurie Ropson
- IV. Consent Agenda
 - A. Minutes
 1. Motion made by Natalie to accept the Sep minutes, Ron seconded.
- V. Minister's Report; see [Minister's Report](#)
- VI. Discussion Agenda
 - A. Stewardship Team - see [Budget vs Actual](#)
 1. Bank Balances as of 9/30/24:
 2. Checking: \$11,960.19
 3. Money Market: \$26,936.40
 4. CD: \$10,420.32
 5. Scrip Checking: \$1,509.68
 6. Building Loan: \$169,773.34
(almost 7 yrs in on 15-yr loan; rate will change in 2025)
 7. Budget notes: Our insurance cost is going up, more than we expected, about \$750/yr above the amt we budgeted. Deductibles also increasing. UUA is looking at offering insurance so we will consider that in future. Our accounting software cost also increased and that is shown on the Sept

budget report.

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

1. Francesca made a few changes vs what Mary had reported. We may want to think about what kind of additional attendance info we might want, like year over year comparisons, percentage of members, whether increased attendance is translating into a growing membership, growing contributions, etc.

- a) Quarterly would be more accurate than monthly, because it averages out variations (eg, some months have 5 Sunday.
- b) Conversion to membership is another useful metric.
- c) Jim: Perhaps we spend more time tracking data than actually developing members/membership. Open Circle does a head count but not broken down in categories the way we did.

(1) Natalie: We used to have a Membership team who would divide up the task of following up with people. We haven't had a team for a while.

(2) Francesca: It is useful to be able to see who hasn't been here for a while. We'd lose that if we didn't collect more detailed info.

(3) Natalie: Let's keep an eye out for someone who might be able to restart the membership team.

d) Francesca will include percent of members next month.

2. Full board: revisit 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. Music:

- a) Natalie followed up with Brad about pianist. We agreed \$25-50 is a range we can offer to the person he knows. Natalie heard from Brad yesterday. We're still waiting to hear response from the pianist.
- b) So far none of our remaining musicians are willing to take over coordinating music.
- c) Jim: Perhaps we could find a music major recent grad.

2. Nathan is tied up with his job search. We'll go with TED talk that Sunday.

D. Religious Enrichment Team - no report

1. Melissa: We still need helpers (2nd adult) for some dates in Dec. Melissa will send the specific dates to Francesca and Francesca will arrange for announcements.

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

- 1. Francesca did put notice in Connect and added service announcements about the special collection on 9/29.
- 2. Re: item 2 on report, Laurie & Annette called Nicolet School twice, person wasn't available.
- 3. Addition to report: on Mon Laurie saw documentary called The Invisible

Class, about homelessness. A group in Appleton has rights we could use to show it until next Spring. It's about 90 mins long. In Appleton they took a break halfway, because the content is heavy. Laurie would like to suggest we host a screening. Could have some discussion after.

a) We discussed timing. Could combine with dinner, have a couple people bring soup, so we could do it on an evening without running too late. Maybe January.

4. Meetings are 3rd Sunday after service.

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

1. Michael will look into getting keys for the riot bars.

2. Ron removed the A/C in the ATM area.

3. No updates on A/C functioning. We will wait till spring inspection.

4. Ron will find out who can remove A/C unit in the kitchen.

5. Fire fighters visited for annual inspection and we passed.

6. Nicole disposed of the leaking watering wand after last month's meeting and turned off the exterior spigot.

a) *Have we had any more trouble with water spigot being left on? No. Ron removed hoses and put in basement. Ron will turn off outdoor spigot.*

7. In spring 2025 board will revisit service agreement for HVAC systems and consider paying for 1 inspection per year instead of renewing the contract.

VII. Old Business

A. Greeter Concerns/Questions

1. Did Annette talk to Candy about updating the greeter communication?
Yes.

B. First Nations allyship

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

C. Child care

1. *Did Ramona call Frances to see if she is still willing to be the sub?*

Frances didn't respond to Ramona's email before Oct meeting. Ramona or Annette will talk to Frances.

2. *Annette will remind Shannon to email Frances and cc Annette for this in the future.*

3. *Did Annette restart staff reviews?*

D. Loitering issue

1. Laurie spoke with case manager. Multiple members found individuals on the property and notified them they couldn't stay. Police were also contacted.

a) Police Outreach team has been through here multiple times with St John's staff.

b) Laurie: Unless we have surveillance, we will have people here. The outlet attracts people. The alcove gives people a spot out of

the elements. St Johns isn't open yet (opens in 3 weeks). People are being resourceful.

- c) Laurie comes by often. Sometimes there's a car in the lot.
- d) Laurie suggests we set boundaries: no drinking, drugs, groups.

When not adhering, then we act.

- 2. Someone is here currently. There has been a shopping cart here sometimes. Clothing, bedding, etc.
- 3. Ron & Michael will turn off the circuit to the outdoor outlets.
- 4. Full board: revisit the matter next month, after St Johns opens.
- 5. Natalie will create a Google Doc where we will log our observations.

VIII. New Business

- A. Ramona: US Cellular is looking for a place to put a communication tower. They'd pay us \$850/month. Ramona will contact them to see if they can come to the next board meeting.

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

X. Check Out

XI. Adjourned at 7:58 pm. (Roz, Natalie).