

# GBAUUF Board Meeting Minutes

June 11th, 2025 | 6:30 p.m.

Chair: Annette Dreier  
Vice Chair: Tim West  
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: Rev. Jim, Annette Dreier, Ramona Makos, Melissa Rink, Nicole Bickham, Natalie Buhl, Tim West, Roz Barker
- 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 Natalie to accept the May minutes, Nicole seconded.
- V. [Minister's Report](#)
- VI. Discussion Agenda
  - A. Stewardship Team - see [Financial Report](#)
    1. Bank Balances as of June 6 are as follows:
      - a) Checking: \$11,288
      - b) Reserve Funds: \$38,421
      - c) Commercial loan: \$161,974
    2. Wild Ones grant has been moved to Designated Funds, so it stays separate from operating expenses.
    3. Canvas deficit: a couple people dropped out so that amount probably will not be recovered. We made up for that with fundraisers.
    4. Jim: some fellowships figure in shrinkage on amounts pledged. Something to consider for future budgets.
    5. Roz willing to continue working with Annette on the Dairy Queen

proposal.

- B. Membership Team - see [Attendance Report](#) and [Caring Committee Report](#)
- C. Programming Team - see [Sunday Services Team Report](#)
  - 1. Francesca will manage distributing Soul Matters.
- D. Religious Enrichment Team - no report
  - 1. Jim recruited Tobias & Katie to co-lead BATS. He gave them 2 options for how to structure it, one of which is the Coming of Age program. He is meeting with them Sunday to find out what they can commit to.
  - 2. Madeline is continuing the teen book club next year.
- E. Social Justice Team - no report
- F. Building/Facilities Team - no separate **Facilities Report**
  - 1. Michael ordered a new pull for police strap for the front Sanctuary. The battery died in the old one and was not replaceable.
  - 2. Revisiting service agreement for HVAC systems: Currently the A/C and heat each get inspected and tuned up once per year per \$555 contract. Parts if any not included. We planned to consider paying for 1 inspection per year instead of renewing the contract, or having them inspected every 2 years (after this year). Ron has the expertise to inspect them as well.
    - a) *Did Michael ask what the cost would be to do inspections every other year, and whether there is a no-weekend charge included in the contract?*
  - 3. During planning meeting we talked about a few improvements to the interior:
    - a) Covering window between back of sanctuary and stairwell with paneling so we can hang a bulletin board. Keith & Ron willing to do the installation. Ideally it would match the other paneling in the back of the sanctuary. Ron volunteered to look into what kind of wood we can get and estimate cost.
      - (1) Ron didn't find boards like we have in the sanctuary now at Menards.
      - (2) Natalie emailed Katina to find out where they got the wood that was used in the front of the sanctuary. There are some leftover boards in the basement. The wall near the back is made of used pallets. *Ron will try to find economical boards and talk with Katina about stain/finishing.*

## VII. Old Business

- A. Post-Consortium updates
  - 1. Annette emailed Christina at Fox Valley to let them know which services we'd like to engage and she responded with a list of services and a Memorandum of Understanding.
  - 2. Tim looked at the MOU and suggested edits (see attached [suggested edits to Memorandum of Understanding](#)). However, that level of scrutiny is probably not necessary. If we're happy with the MOU, it's probably fine as

is. Tim also clarified he is not acting as an attorney for the fellowship. Only concern was whether it's intended to be legally binding and enforceable; his suggestions were based on assumption it IS meant to be binding. Up to the Board to decide whether we are okay with it being non-binding; we are. We will go with the MOU as proposed.

3. Sunday Services Team had already booked summer speakers before we received the memo from Fox Valley. But the memo says they're to be paid for 12 months of services, and FV budgeted with that in mind. We decided we'll take them up on their offer to start on August 1. **Natalie will ask if they have some flexibility for the months that we have already scheduled someone on the Sunday they offered to speak.**
- B. Changes to bylaws re: Active Voting Member & Lifetime Member were approved at annual meeting. **Francesca will update this on the website.**
- C. *Prioritizing [strategic planning goals](#).* **Did Annette ask Katie & Sydney to work with her on the Membership portion?**
- D. Vice chair position
  1. Annette announced the position, talked to Steven Linden, as well as Emilyn. Emilyn would be willing to be co-chair at some point, which is something that has happened in the past. They would have 1 vote.
  2. However, in the meantime, Carl Bennett volunteered to serve.
- E. **Did Roz & Annette talk to the Dairy Queen owner to get more info about their offer to purchase some of our lot?**

## VIII. New Business

- A. Questions about Rental Agreements
  1. We have a renter who hasn't paid April or May, has every Thursday scheduled, but use the space intermittently. Ramona has sent emails and gotten no response. The contract says it can be terminated by either party at free will. **Annette is willing to meet with the member to talk about back payment, and revisiting the frequency of the reservation.**
- B. Soffit and fascia repair of building, from Reserve Funds. We originally talked about this a year ago, said we'd revisit this year. We need to get more estimates on repair (the one we got last year didn't have a lot of details and was about \$10k), and also determine whether the gutters & downspouts may be inadequate. Would be helpful to identify a member to lead the project. **Ramona will write something up for the Connect.**
- C. CD vs. Money Market for Reserve Funds. One of our \$10k CDs is maturing next week, the other Nov. We decided we will roll it over into another CD b/c we have enough in our money market to pay for the soffit repair.
- D. [Bookshop.org](#) as a fundraiser: We can set up an affiliate page where people buy books and we earn 10%. **Ramona will look into what is required, Nicole willing to help.** Francesca can create a QR code for it.
- E. Nicole needs secretary sub for July & Aug board meetings (finalizing & distributing agenda, taking minutes at meeting & distributing afterward). **Tim is**

willing to do July, possibly August. Natalie willing to be back-up for August. Nicole will coordinate with Tim.

- F. Banking changes needed
    - 1. Ramona was at the bank and discovered we have people listed as beneficiary owners that aren't on the board anymore. We'll plan to have it be the new treasurer each year. Beneficiary owners on each account will be changed as follows:
      - a) Checking: Remove Ramona Makos, Add Ron Ropson
      - b) Money Market Checking: Remove Sam Vainisi, Add Ron Ropson
      - c) Scrip: Remove Mary Jacobs, Add Ron Ropson
    - 2. Signers on each account will be changed as follows:
      - a) Checking: Remove Rosalinde Barker, Add Ron Ropson, Keep Ramona Makos
      - b) Money Market Checking: Remove Rosalinde Barker, Add Ron Ropson, Keep Ramona Makos
      - c) Scrip: Remove Rosalinde Barker, Add Ron Ropson, Keep Ramona Makos and Annette Dreier
      - d) 6-month CD-2964: Remove Rosalinde Barker, Add Ron Ropson, Keep Ramona Makos
      - e) 6 Month CD-4089: Remove Rosalinde Barker, Add Ron Ropson, Keep Ramona Makos
    - 3. Natalie moves to accept changes as stated. Tim seconds. Passed unanimously.
  - G. Noah & Katie's wedding coming up. Natalie wrote an announcement for the bulletin.
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- IX. Review Action Items - see above, highlighted in orange
  - X. Check Out
  - XI. Adjourned at 7:56pm (Nicole, Annette).