

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Unitarian Universalist Church of Nashua
For year 2019-2020, held on June 7, 2020

*Meeting held via videoconference due to COVID-19
President Carol Houde was present in the Sanctuary in Nashua, New Hampshire*

1. Registration of Voting Members online

- 1. Attendees were welcomed and registered as they arrived via Zoom and telephone
 - i. Checking team: Jodie K. Holway, Harry Purkhiser, Brenna Woods, Sherri Woolsey
- 2. 77 members registered today, of total 277 in [2019-20 Clerk’s Report](#)

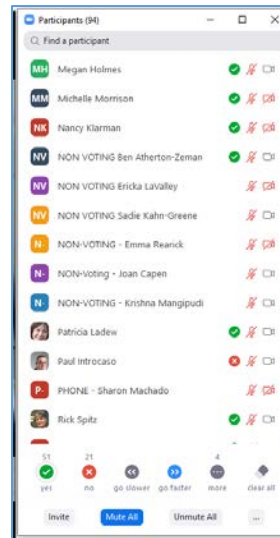
2. Call to Order (Meeting Agenda: see [Appendix A](#))

- 1. Carol Houde, President, called the meeting to order at 12:15
- 2. Certification of quorum, by Jodie K. Holway, Clerk
- 3. Reading of UUCN’s Articles of Incorporation

3. Explanation of Meeting Logistics, by President Carol Houde

- 1. Being recognized to speak; voting; getting help
- 2. Sample vote: the important question of whether pineapple belongs on a pizza

- i. **MOTION** to bring this question to a vote
- ii. **SECONDED** by Brian Ibsen-Johnson
- iii. **VOTING**
 - 1. Zoom: 51 in favor, 21 opposed
 - 2. Phone: 1 in favor, 1 opposed
- iv. **MOTION PASSES**



4. Chalice Lighting, by Vice President Brenna Woods

5. In Memoriam, by Rev. Allison Palm

- 1. Remembrance of members and friends of the congregation who passed away this year
 - i. Lisa Laughton
 - ii. Anne Leach
 - iii. Arthur Olsson

6. Consent Agenda

1. With a single vote, the Congregation:
 - i. Approves the minutes of the [2019 Annual Meeting](#) held on Sunday, June 2, 2019 as submitted by the Clerk
 - ii. Accepts and places on file the following reports, which are all posted [here](#):
 1. Leadership Reports
 - a. Clerk's Report
 - b. Minister's Report
 - c. President's Report
 - d. Next Steps Weekend Report to the Congregation
 2. Committee Reports
(committees report to the Board of Trustees or Congregation)
 - a. Cemetery Trustees
 - b. Financial Records Review
 - c. Invested Funds Committee
 - d. Nominating Committee
 - e. Internship Committee
 3. Team Reports:
(teams report to the Executive Director or a staff member)
 - a. Children's Winter Garden with White Wing School
 - b. Faith Formation
 - c. Music
 - d. Pastoral Care
 - e. Property
 - f. Stewardship
 - g. Social Justice
 - h. Worship Associates.
 2. **MOTION** to accept these reports by Burns Fisher
 3. **SECONDED** by Brian Ibsen-Johnson
 4. **VOTING**
 - i. Zoom: 76 in favor, 0 opposed
 - ii. Phone: 2 in favor, 0 opposed
 5. **MOTION CARRIED**
- 7. President's Report**, by President Carol Houde
1. See <https://uunashua.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Presidents-report-2020-3.pdf>
- 8. Minister's Report**, by Rev. Allison Palm
1. See <https://uunashua.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Minister%E2%80%99s-Report-FY2020-2.pdf>
- 9. Hymn:** Love Will Guide Us

10. Financial Reports and Budget, by Rev. Allison Palm

1. See <https://uunashua.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/FY2020-Financial-Report-Proposed-FY2021-Budget.pdf>
 - i. Fiscal Year 2019-20 Summary
 - ii. Proposed 2020-21 Budgets
 1. Note there are two budgets proposed, one for all in-person, other for all virtual. Impossible to predict what combination of services next year.
2. **MOTION** to approve the proposed budgets for next church year, by Brian Ibsen-Johnson
 - i. **SECONDED** by Steve Ladew
 - ii. Discussion:
 1. Megan Holmes: About the groups that pay rent to use UUCN's space: would they possibly be in the building before regular church services are held in person?
 2. Answer: It's possible that they would want to use the space; it's possible that our church services would want to resume sooner; any combination is possible. We might not choose to meet the regulations for cleaning, in order to offer the space to them. Some of the groups have up to 80 people; perhaps we could rent to the smaller groups sooner. The most important things are safety and our own capacity to clean the buildings properly.
The groups that we wrestled about most are the Anonymous groups, who meet several nights per week. We were helped in this decision because now they all have online meetings, so we feel better that they still have the ability to meet.
 - iii. **VOTING**
 1. Zoom: 74 in favor, 0 opposed
 2. Phone: 2 in favor, 0 opposed
 - iv. **MOTION CARRIED**
3. **MOTION** from the floor by Jeff Epstein, to thank Rev. Allison and the UUCN Board of Trustees for their diligence in preparing the double-budget which was just passed.
 - i. **SECONDED** by Brian Ibsen-Johnson
 - ii. **VOTING**
 1. Zoom: 50 in favor, 0 opposed
 2. Phone: 2 in favor, 0 opposed
 - iii. **MOTION CARRIED**

11. Building Our Vision Team Summary, by the Building Our Vision team (*see Appendix B*)

1. This team, and the Board of Trustees, has taken all input from conversations and meetings about our vision for our buildings and campus, has crafted a series of forward-looking statements about various aspects of our congregation as we wish to be in the future
2. Presenting these aloud but not asking for a vote today, due to the communal and economic impact of this pandemic
3. More details and stories will be coming in an October service

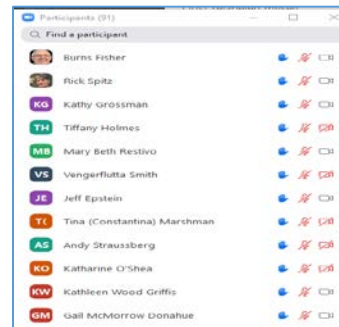
12. Church Organ Recovery Team Thank You, by VP Brenna Woods, Treasurer Lindsey Hedrick

1. Informative and entertaining video in the church basement, repairing the organ
2. Mary Holland starred in the video, and overall thanks to everyone involved in the effort: Paul Lemaire, Jed Holland, Matt Holland, Michael Holland, Mary Holland, Karen Fitzpatrick



13. Recognizing Volunteers, by the UUCN Staff

1. Each group of people who have volunteered in various capacities and shared our gifts, are asked to virtually raise their hands in the air to be thanked for their help this year – until each and every hand is raised in a celebration of our village!



14. Nominating Committee Report & Elections, by Karen Leonard

1. Recommended slates of candidates were [posted here](#) in advance:
 - i. Nominations as officers of the Board of Trustees:
 1. President – Brenna Woods
 2. Vice President – Lindsey Hedrick
 3. Treasurer – Lindsey Sylvester
 4. Clerk – Jodie Kalikow Holway
 - ii. Nominations for the open two-year Member at Large positions:
 1. Cecile Bonvouloir
 2. Andy Capen
 3. Roy Goodman
 - iii. Nomination to the Nashua Cemetery Association:
 1. Tom Harris

2. Committee presents a motion to accept the recommended slate of candidates
3. **VOTING**
 - i. Zoom: 72 in favor, 0 opposed
 - ii. Phone: 2 in favor, 0 opposed
4. **MOTION CARRIED**

15. Installation of Officers and Board of Trustees, by Rev. Allison Palm

16. Closing – Meeting Adjourned

APPENDIX A: *Agenda for this Annual Meeting*

APPENDIX B: *Building Our Vision Team Report*

Agenda for FY 2019-20 Annual Meeting

Unitarian-Universalist Church of Nashua

June 7, 2020

This Annual Meeting is being held online due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Consistent with the by-laws, and as approved by the Board of Trustees in May, the Annual meeting is being held in Nashua, as documented by the President of the church chairing from the UUCN pulpit, and Rev. Allison Palm hosting the meeting in Nashua, using UUCN's Zoom account.

Time	Agenda Item	Presenter
12:00	Registration of Voting Members in Zoom	Jodie Holway, <i>Clerk</i>
12:15	Call to Order <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Certification of Quorum (<i>Clerk</i>) ● Reading of Purposes from the Articles of Agreement 	Carol Houde, <i>President</i>
12:20	Explanation of Meeting Logistics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Being recognized to speak; voting; getting help 	
12:30	Chalice Lighting	Brenna Woods, <i>VP</i>
12:35	In Memoriam	Rev. Allison Palm
12:40	Consent Agenda	Carol Houde
12:45	Values and Mission of the UU Church of Nashua	<i>In Unison</i>
12:50	President's Report	Carol Houde
1:00	Minister's Report	Rev. Allison Palm
1:15	Hymn: "Love Will Guide Us"	No. 131
1:25	Financial Reports & Budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fiscal Year 2019-20 Summary ● Proposed 2020-21 Budgets 	Rev. Allison Palm
1:40	Building Our Vision Team Summary	BoV Team
1:48	Church Organ Recovery Team Thank You	Brenna Woods, <i>Vice-President</i> Lindsey Hedrick, <i>Treasurer</i>
1:53	Recognizing Volunteers	Staff
2:00	Nominating Committee Report & Elections	Karen Leonard
2:10	Installation of Officers and Board of Trustees	Rev. Allison Palm
2:15	Closing the Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Adjourn ● Chalice Extinguishing ● Peace & Joy 	

Consent Agenda

With a single vote, the Congregation:

- approves the minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting, held on Sunday, June 2, 2019 as submitted by the Clerk, and
- accepts and places on file the reports of the following:

Leadership Reports:

Clerk's Report, Minister's Report, President's Report, Next Steps Weekend Report to the Congregation;

Committee Reports: (*committees report to the Board of Trustees or Congregation*)

Cemetery Trustees, Financial Records Review, Invested Funds Committee, Nominating Committee, Internship Committee

Team Reports: (*teams report to the Executive Director or a staff member*)

Children's Winter Garden with White Wing School, Faith Formation, Music, Pastoral Care, Property, Stewardship, Social Justice, and Worship Associates.

NOTE: These reports are available on the church website here:

<https://uunashua.org/about-us/our-governance/annual-meetings/2019-annual-meeting-documents/>

Values of the UU Church of Nashua

Wonder

Authenticity

Courageous community

Love in action

Mission of the UU Church of Nashua

We are a welcoming community of faith, inspiring lives of wonder, generosity, and courage, serving the world through love in action.

Ends Statements

We create brave space for all ages where we:

- Know our authentic Unitarian Universalist faith identity, teach it to our children, share it with others, and live it in the world.
- Develop meaningful spiritual practices that connect us to wonder.
- Ask for and receive care, support, and connection in times of struggle, joy, and transition.
- Grow leaders who serve the needs of our congregation and our community with faith, resilience, and courage.
- Steward our congregational community with our time, talent, and money.
- Participate actively in our larger Unitarian Universalist community.
- Understand systems of oppression and privilege and work to dismantle them within ourselves, our congregation, and the larger world.
- Work in deep partnership to advance justice and heal our community and the world.

Evolving Covenant of Right Relationships

Our church is a unique community where we aspire to personal and spiritual growth, and to learning new ways of being in relation to one another. Mindful of your inherent worth and dignity, I do covenant to: bring my best self to this place; listen intently; speak honestly and thoughtfully; trust in your good intentions and recognize that my actions and words have an impact regardless of my intentions; and when I fall out of covenant, I will ask for help and be open to loving guidance to restore my relationship with you.

UU Nashua Building Our Vision Report

Shared June 7, 2020 in Annual Meeting

With our church's 200th anniversary only 6 years away, the board of trustees commissioned a "Building our Vision" task force this past year. The task force's goal was to create a future vision for our church buildings & campus that aligned with our new values, mission and ends. The task force members included Frank Grossman, Lindsey Hedrick, Jon Lasselle, Kate O'Shea, Rev. Allison Palm, Steve Pugh, Bob Sampson, Rick Spitz, and Lindsey Sylvester. We met monthly and operated with a rotating facilitator for each meeting.

The task force collected inputs from the congregation via a series of five deep listening sessions in January and February, each focused on different church programs. The sessions built upon the work of the long-range planning committee in 2017-2018. About 70 people attended in total, providing almost 400 feedback items. We are grateful to all that participated! In March we held a joint session of the Building Our Vision Task force members and the Board of Trustees to review all of this data and construct a vision statement for our buildings and campus. We are not asking the congregation to vote on the vision at this time, but wanted to present it to you so that you may become familiar with it. For those that have not worked with vision statements before, it is written from the point of view of sometime in the future when the work has all been done.

The vision statement which we jointly created is as follows:

"We are a welcoming community of faith that works to dismantle oppression and privilege within our congregation by removing obstacles to entering and using our campus. To this end, our campus is accessible to all by including the elements needed for our programs and services to meet various accessibility needs. Our campus provides a clear welcome, offering a sense of warmth, belonging, acceptance, and safety to all who pass by or enter our spaces.

In our worship spaces, we balance honoring our past with the flexibility needed for the diverse use and changing needs of our modern church, while inspiring wonder, authentic connection, courageous community, and love in action.

We are good stewards of the Earth, helping to combat climate change by working to limit our use of energy, using sustainable materials, and striving to attain carbon neutrality.

We effectively use technology to provide better access, enable many forms of communication throughout and beyond our buildings, and allow for greater flexibility for all. We have appropriate physical systems to efficiently do the work of our mission.

In order to know our authentic UU Nashua identity, we honor those who helped create our story while embracing change in ourselves as we serve as stewards for our future. We honor the heritage of our campus, which serves as a visible connection to our past and our future."

Due to the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic and the related need for physical distancing, we decided to delay a congregational vote for now. We need to better understand the economic impact of the pandemic before proceeding further. Our goal is to move forward using our new vision statement once we can again safely physically meet and the pandemic is much better understood.

As we reflect on our church's history, we recall that there have been two significant pandemics in the past 102 years. In 1918 the Spanish Flu was the deadliest pandemic in history. However, only ten years later, our church did a major renovation erecting our parish house and significantly improving our church facilities. Again in 1957/58, we were stricken with the H2N2 virus pandemic. Only one year later we erected the White Wing annex and launched a new school for the community. So, like those who came before us, when this pandemic is over, we want to be ready to again grow and improve our church facility for future generations.