

Unitarian Universalist Church of Nashua, NH (UUCN) All-Congregation Annual Meeting

June 11, 2023

Meeting held hybrid, at church and via Zoom

Internal Draft of the Minutes by Jodie K. Holway, Clerk of the Board of Trustees

Initial review requested from speakers by: July 30, 2023

Comment Period for Congregation: Feedback and/or corrections welcomed from 29-Aug-23 to 28-Oct-23 (sent by Karen Murray, New Clerk of the Board of Trustees)

See agenda posted here:

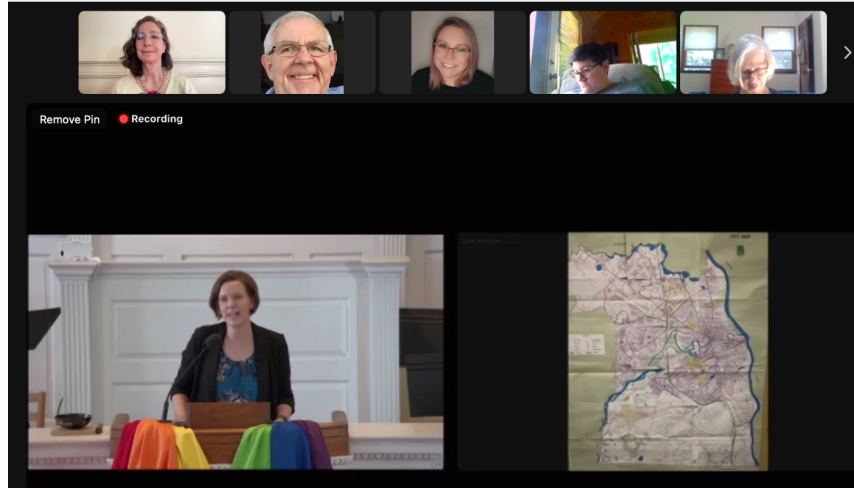
<https://uunashua.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/2023-Annual-Meeting-Agenda.pdf>



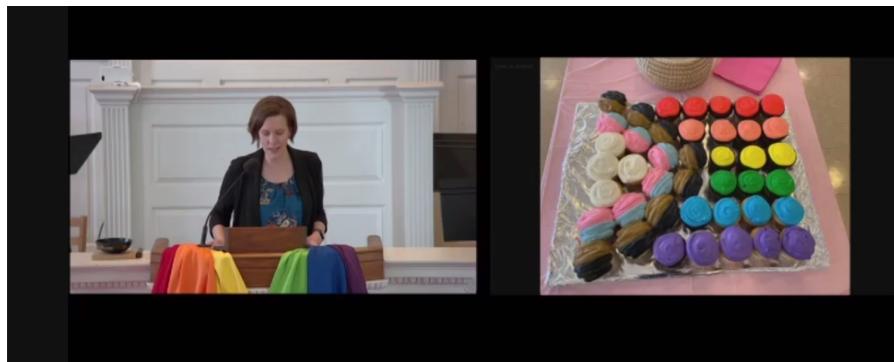
1. **Opening** by Brenna Woods, President
 - a. Quorum of attendance is certified by Clerk Jodie K. Holway
 - b. Reading of the Articles of Agreement of our church
 - c. Practice vote: Does a straw have one hole or two?
 - i. **MOTION:** Deciding that a straw has one hole
MOVED by Lindsey Hedrick, **SECONDED** by Kathy Grossman, **PASSES**
2. **Chalice Lighting**, Lindsey Hedrick, Vice President
3. **In Memoriam**, Rev. Allison Palm
 - a. Moment to remember those members and friends who have passed away:
 - b. Ruth Bedinger
 - c. Kate Brodinger
 - d. Dan Holland

- e. Paul Loeffler
 - f. Ken Mayo
4. **Consent Agenda**, Brenna Woods
- a. **MOTION**: With a single vote, the Congregation:
Approves the minutes of the [November Congregational Meeting](#), held on November 20, 2022 as submitted by the Clerk,
and
Accepts and places on file the reports of the following:
 - i. Leadership Reports:
 - 1. Clerk's Report, Minister's Report, President's Report
 - ii. Committee Reports:
(committees report to the Board of Trustees or Congregation)
 - 1. Cemetery Trustees, Financial Records Review, Invested Funds Committee, Nominating Team, Internship Committee
 - iii. Team Reports:
(teams report to the Executive Director or a staff member)
 - 1. Children's Winter Garden with White Wing School, Faith Formation, Music, Pastoral Care, Property, Stewardship, Social Justice, and Worship Associates
 - b. **MOVED** by Dave Hudson, **SECONDED** by Sean Chadwick, **PASSES**
5. **President's Report**, Brenna Woods
- a. See full text of report at <https://uunashua.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Presidents-Report-Annual-Mee-ting-2023-1.pdf>
 - b. This past church year we welcomed back Rev Allison after sabbatical
 - c. Voted to explore the most visionary plan for the Capital Campaign
 - d. Held many conversations about the upcoming improvements to the church
 - e. Paused the Endowment committee work, until after Capital Campaign
 - f. Completed reviewing all the Policies in Section 3, Minister/Board Relationship
 - g. Change of church leadership:
 - i. This is the end of Brenna's long and successful terms as church president
 - ii. New president Lindsey Hedrick is more than ready to serve in this role
 - iii. Brenna gives thanks to many, including wife Jess, whole Board of Trustees, past presidents Carol Houde and Dave Hudson, and the amazing staff of the church
6. **Minister's Report**, Rev. Allison Palm
- a. See full text of report at <https://uunashua.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Ministers-Report-FY2023.pdf>

- b. We are coming back from a hard pandemic, our energy is coming back, we have new members and we have a lot going for us
- c. First half of the year:
 - i. Rev. Allison's sabbatical was a writing retreat for her book of UU Rituals (to be published spring 2024), and project to walk all of Nashua's streets



- ii. Caro Barschow and the interim team covered everything ably, including work with the Board to hold the November All-Congregation Meeting to vote in the Visionary plan for our campus improvements
- d. Second half, share updates and images related to each Ends statement

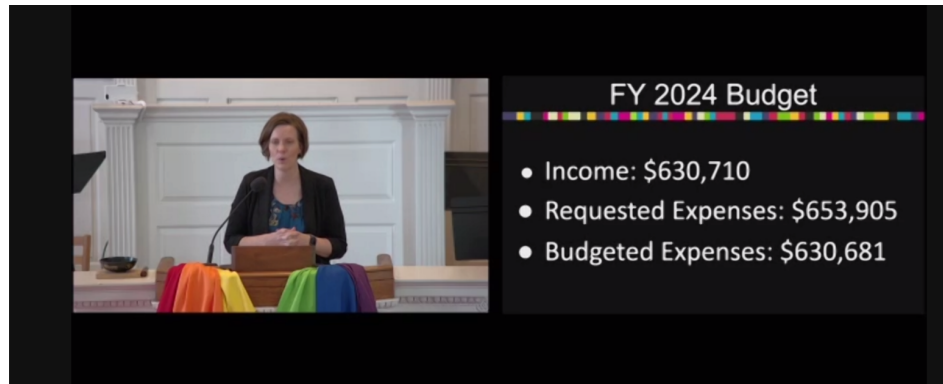


- e. Next year 2023-24
 - i. Implement the Building Our Vision plan, plan to start construction in spring 2024
 - ii. Goodbye to ministerial intern Caro Barshow, hello to intern Erin Scott
- f. Thank you to the amazing staff in this shared ministry, the hard-working Board of Trustees, and everyone associated with this beautiful congregation

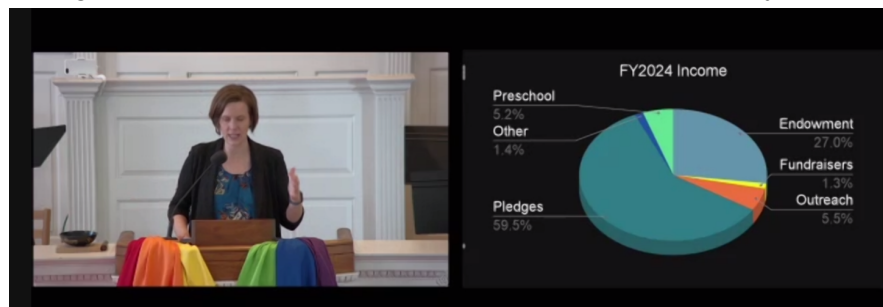
7. Financial Report and Budget, Rev. Allison

- a. See full text of report at <https://uunashua.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Full-FY23-Financial-Report-FY24-Proposed-Budget.pdf>

- b. Presenting a balanced budget, after had to prune down from what was requested

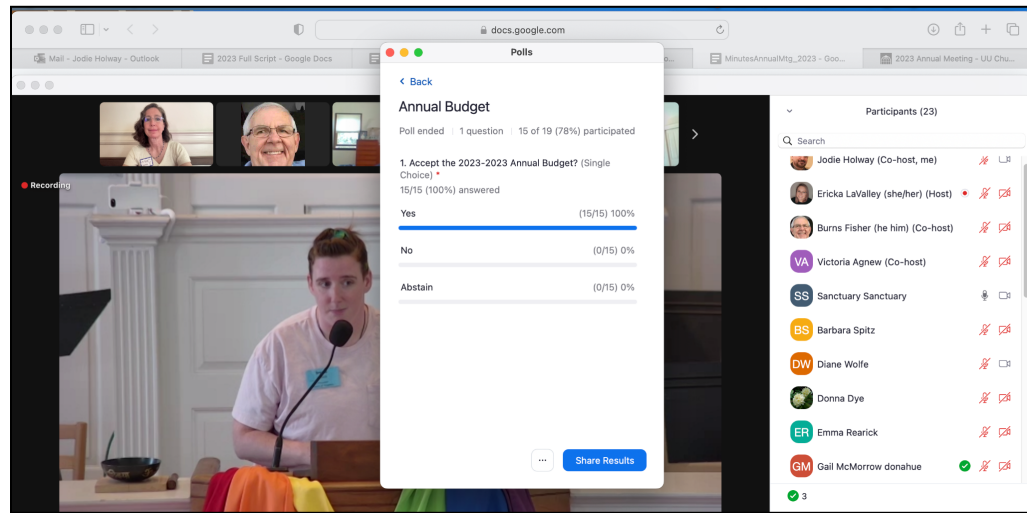


- c. Taking some contributions out of endowment, 27% ish per year



- d. Changes from last year
 - i. Cemetery Committee is now getting administrative support, as of this year
 - ii. Expenses like utilities in the operations category are rising vs. last year
 - iii. Cost of living expenses for staff:
 - 1. This year the UUA recommended raises of 8.3%
 - 2. We came close to being able to give this, this though didn't hit it
 - iv. Funding for the architects and their work is coming from the Bicentennial fund, even before we've raised the money that was committed
- e. **MOTION** to Accept the budget as presented by Rev. Allison **MOVED** by Jon Lasselle, **SECONDED** by Robin Trudel
- f. Discussion: How were the Bicentennial fund and the Building Maintenance fund created?
 - i. Building Maintenance fund has existed for a long time, each budget includes a bit of money for it, which gets deposited at end of each year
 - ii. Bicentennial fund was created a few years ago by the Board of Trustees
 - 1. Original intention was to be the destination for funds that were matched by the UUA from earmarked bequests from church members who put UU Nashua into their wills
 - 2. Additional funds come from the recent few end-of-year budget surpluses being voted to here by the Board of Trustees
 - 3. And specific targeted donations for Bicentennial (similar to one Auction which raised money specifically for multiplatform worship)

- g. Vote, both in the sanctuary and online: **MOTION PASSES**



8. **Building Our Vision Team:** Jess Woods, Karen Murray
- See full text of report at <https://uunashua.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/BOV-2023-Annual-Report-.pdf>
 - This past year, the task forces worked, selected a construction company, defined and gathered input on three proposals, held an all-congregation meeting to explore the visionary plan, held another all-congregation meeting to launch the Capital Campaign
 - Now we are turning to the detailed planning of the building project
 - Capital Campaign Team drove participation in this campaign and in the pledge drive, recruited Visiting Stewards who in turn allowed us to reach out to everyone in the congregation
 - We exceeded the goal by hitting \$2.3 million in commitments!
 - 130 members and friends contributed to this great success
9. **Nominating Committee,** Chuck Rehberg
- See full text of report at <https://uunashua.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Nominating-Committee-2023.pdf>
 - Board of Trustees has three members outgoing members, three new members
 - Financial Records Review has members agreeing to be renominated
 - Nashua Cemetery Association has members agreeing to be renominated
 - No motion is required, as the committee has submitted these proposals
MOVED by Steve Ladew, **SECONDED** Elizabeth Lewis, **PASSES**
10. **Closing** and Extinguishing the Chalice
MOTION to adjourn this meeting
MOVED by Karen Murray, **SECONDED** by Jess Woods, **PASSES**