

Nomination Committee Report 2026

Unitarian Universalist Church of Nashua Nominating Committee 2025-2026

Submitted by Peggy Cardone, Chair

Our purpose as the Nominating Committee is to identify candidates to fill open positions on the Board of Trustees and committees as defined by church bylaws. These positions include Officers and Members at Large for the Board of Trustees, as well as members for the Nashua Cemetery Association, and Nominating Committee.

The Nominating Committee is successful when we are able to find members to fill the roles for the next calendar year, and when we have a pool of candidates to get to know for future planning.

The Nominating Committee met online in October when Cecile and Jim Bonvouloir stepped down from their roles as Member at Large on the Board of Trustees, and Nashua Cemetery Association, respectively. We nominated **Dave Husdon** to finish Cecile's term on the Board and **Donna La Rue** to finish Jim's term on the Cemetery Association.

The Nominating Committee met online in the last few months and we were (mostly) successful in finding members we feel will lead with the strength and passion these important roles require. One position on the Cemetery Association currently remains open.

Our recruiting approach is a thoughtful one, taking into account the type of work to be done, the unique talents of our members, input from all of our church members, and board/committee diversity. We also continued to maintain a data file to monitor term completion and an ongoing future leaders file for long term planning. Each year we review the data to ensure the accuracy of our committee information. We will continue to do this as we move into next year.

Current Nominating Committee members include:

- Peggy Cardone, Chair
- Andy Straussberg
- Joyce Trudel
- Marissa Volpe
- Board Liaison: Rob Bate
- Board Liaison: Julia Firmbach

Nominations:

- Andy Straussberg is stepping down from this role, we are nominating **Brenna Woods** to fill this role.

Board of Trustees and Officers

The nine members and officers of our Board of Trustees set policy for our church, do visioning, and set limitations for our Minister.

Current Board Members:

- President - Lindsey Hedrick

- Vice President - Emma Rearick
- Clerk - Karen Murray
- Treasurer - Amanda Banner
- Members at Large:
 - Robin Trudel
 - Julia Firmbach
 - Paul Cardone
 - Rob Bate
 - Dave Hudson

Nominations:

- **Lindsey Hedrick** has reached the end of their term and we are nominating **Emma Rearick** for the role of President.
- We are nominating **Dave Hudson** for the role of Vice President that Emma will leave vacant.
- **Rob Bate** is stepping down and we are nominating **Laurie Barry** for Member at Large.
- We are nominating **Mari Rajaram** to the at large position Dave Hudson will leave open.

Nashua Cemetery Association

The Trustees of the Nashua Cemetery Association are charged with the ongoing care and maintenance of the historic cemetery grounds, including the beautiful Memorial Garden for current church members and their loved ones.

Current Committee Members Include:

- Donna LaRue
- Krista Early
- Dave Johnson
- Kim Steele
- Harry Purkiser

Nominations:

- Kim Steele and Harry Purkhiser are both stepping down from their roles. We are nominating **Carl Phillips** to the Cemetery Association and have one spot still vacant.

In closing, we would like to **thank** all members who are leaving their positions this year, and welcome those filling the new roles. We encourage anyone interested in the Board of Trustees, the Cemetery Association, or the Nominating Committee to talk with Nomination Committee Members.

| Position | Current Officeholder | 1st Year in Office (church year) | Years in Office (YEAR END) | | | | | | Status end of Church Year 2025 | Proposed Action for 2025-2026 Year |
|--|----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | |
| Board of Trustees: Officers (6 year max including M-at-L & Officer except for President) (Pres 2 yr + 1 yr) (VP 1 yr terms) (Treasurer and Clerk 2yr terms) | | | | | | | | | | |
| President | Lindsey Hedrick | 2024 (2018 MaL) | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | | | Term Limit | Nominate Emma Rearick |
| Vice President | Emma Rearick | 2026 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | | | | Term Limit | Nominate Dave Husdon |
| Clerk | Karen Murray | 2024 | 2024 | 2026 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | Midterm | |
| Treasurer | Amanda Banner | 2026 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 | Mid term | |
| Board of Trustees: Members at Large (Voting bylaws for 2017-2018 year: 2 year terms, six year max) | | | | | | | | | | |
| At Large #1 | Robin Trudel | 2023 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | Term complete | Renominate Robin |
| At Large #2 | Julia Firmbach | 2026 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 | Midterm | |
| At Large #3 | Paul Cardone | 2024 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | Midterm | |
| At Large #4 | Rob Bate | 2026 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 | Midterm | Nominate Laurie Barry |
| At Large #5 | Dave Hudson finis | 2021 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | Term complete | Nominate Mari Rajaram |
| Nominating Committee (2 term limit, 3 years per term) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Member #1 (chair) | Peggy Cardone | 2022 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | Midterm | |
| Member #2 | Andy Straussberg | 2024 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | Term complete | Nominate Brenna Woods |
| Member #3 | Marissa Volpe | 2026 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | Midterm | |
| Member #4 | Joyce Trudel | 2026 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | Midterm | |
| Liaison | Julia Firmach | 2026 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | No Limit | |
| Liaison | Rob Bate | 2026 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | No Limit | |
| Nashua Cemetery Association (3 year terms, no limits. Chair elected by committee, 1 year term, 3 term limit.) **at least one member to be elected per year | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trustee #1 | Donna La Rue | 2026 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | Midterm | Treasurer |
| Trustee #2 | Krista Early | 2025 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | Midterm | |
| Trustee #3 | Dave Johnson | 2026 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | Midterm | |
| Trustee #4 | Kim Steele | 2025 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | Stepping down | |
| Trustee #5 | Harry Purkhiser | 2025 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | Term Complete | Nominate Carl Phillips |