



**Unitarian Universalists of Southern Delaware
Board of Trustees Planning Meeting
March 11, 2025**

In attendance: Paul Barnette, Donna Davis, Carol Huckabee, Beth Law, Linda Marsden, Jane Miller, Richard

Wheeler, Rev. Heather Rion Starr

Guests: Kent Sprunger, Ruth Lamothe, Mike Burns, Linda De Feo, Rich Applebaum

Check In and Chalice Lighting (Paul)

- I. Call to Order- Paul Barnette called the meeting to order at 10:09 am.
- II. Approve Agenda- A motion to approve the agenda was made by Beth Law and seconded by Jane Miller. The vote was unanimous to approve.
- III. Items for Action:
 - a. Review/Approve February 26th Business Meeting Minutes- A motion to approve the minutes was made by Donna Davis and seconded by Richard Wheeler. The vote was unanimous to approve.
 - b. Approve Slate of Delegates to GA 2025 - Paul: The five proposed delegates are Lori & Renee Rocheleau, Don Peterson, and Susan & Mac Goekler. The vote was unanimous to approve the slate of delegates.
- IV. Items for Discussion
 - a. CFE Space Issue – Paul/Donna: There is a need for a separate space for the older children. Representatives from various committees have come up with a plan to use half of the shed for storage and to create a room for CFE (12'x18') in the other half. The space has a mini split so it has heat and air. Gary Schmidt will start work on this after May 11th, as the auction team will be storing items in the shed until then. For the longer term the Facilities Task Force is looking at multiple yurt companies. There is a possibility of a 6 month timeline to get it installed, depending upon the permitting required. Location of the yurt was discussed - towards the rear of the property or closer to Route 9. Price is in the \$50,000 range. The Board would like FTF to ask Pennoni to provide a proposal for design and installation of the yurt. The yurt will be a multi-use space, not just for CFE.
 - b. Leika Lewis Ordination – Rev. Heather: They are interested in Movement Chaplaincy and eventually a community minister affiliation with us. Rev. Heather has tentatively targeted the May 25th service for their ordination. The Board voted unanimously to affirm the ordination of Leika Lewis here at UUSD on May 25th.
 - c. Pledge Campaign Update - Kent: As of today we are at 41% of our target (\$168,789 out of \$410,400, 63 pledges). We will be halfway through the

pledge month on the 15th. We are behind \$47,000 compared to last year. Strategies to boost pledge participation during the rest of the month were discussed.

- d. Safer Congregation Committee Update – Ruth Lamothe/Mike Burns: The sanctuary capacity is 230 per the Fire Marshall. The sanctuary chairs need to be latched together when reset. There is a form that needs to be filled out when parking in our lot overnight. The Building Use document was revised. Fire drill is scheduled for April 13th, backup day is May 11th. There is a low probability of ICE raiding us. A church member who is a retired attorney will be researching legal resources we could access if needed. The Emergency Response Manual revision is almost done and will be presented to the Board when finalized. SCC is working with Donna Dolce to train the greeters and ushers with more of a safety focus.
- V. The meeting was adjourned at 12:18 pm.

Next Board Business Meeting: Wednesday, March 26th at 3:30 pm (Zoom).

Respectfully submitted-

Beth Law

BOT Secretary