

Unitarian Universalist Church of the Desert  
Congregational Annual Business Meeting, May 17, 2020  
Minutes

Board Members Attending by Zoom Meeting: President Jane Zaun, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Vikki Porter, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Barbara Storms, Treasurer Jerry L’Hommedieu, Secretary Rod Belshee, Director at Large Carol Lavoie, Director at Large Larry Rogers.

1. Opening and Chalice Lighting:

Secretary Rod Belshee established that a quorum of at least 36 members was present.

President Jane Zaun called the meeting to order at 11:30am by Zoom Meeting, and lit the Chalice while Reverend Barbara gave a reading.

2. Statement from the President on the Virtual Meeting:

Jane read the following statement regarding the virtual Annual Meeting.

First, in our planning for this meeting, let me advise you that the Board consulted our own By-Laws, the California State Non-Profit Law that permits virtual meetings, as well as the UUA recommendations.

We are holding this Annual Business Meeting virtually rather than in-person because of health concerns created by the Coronavirus pandemic and recommendations from California’s governor for “physical distancing” as well as recommendations from the CDC on Faith-Based communities.

Your Board as well as our congregation look forward to meeting again in person when public health officials advise this is appropriate.

There is only ONE agenda item having to do with a waiver, that we will ask MEMBERS to vote on DURING this virtual meeting. On that item, we will ask you to raise your hand and keep it up while we count.

For ALL REMAINING agenda items, we have utilized one of the UUA recommended online systems called Election Buddy. MEMBERS will receive an email at 12:30 PM today that contains a link to Election Buddy, for online voting.

When you open the link, the ballot will come up. It’s very easy to navigate through it. If you forget an item, the system will remind you and you cannot submit the ballot until you have corrected what you forgot. Once you have submitted your ballot, you cannot return to change an

item. You will not be permitted to vote twice. The Election Buddy System will be open until Monday, May 18 at 12:30PM so please cast your vote prior to that time.

By Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, we will have tallied all the votes and will email you a report of the election results.

### 3. Report from the President on the Business of the Church:

Jane summarized the accomplishments of the past year.

### 4. Report from the Minister on the State of the Church:

Reverend Barbara summarized the past year.

### 5. Reports from the Standing Committees:

Roger Beaman summarized his written report and thanked the members of the Finance Committee. Randy Steele summarized his written report and thanked the members of the Membership Committee.

Denise Janssen Eager summarized her written report and thanked the members of the Social Justice Committee.

Rod Belshee summarized his written report and thanked the members of the Facilities Committee.

### 6. Church Operating Budget for FY 2020-2021:

Jerry L'Hommedieu discussed the challenge of creating a budget amid the uncertainty of the pandemic. He reviewed the Budget by sharing his screen and discussing the individual line items, and then solicited questions from members. Voting will be by Election Buddy.

### 7. Waiver of By-Law requiring one-year membership requirement for Board candidates:

Joni Paddock moved and Larry Rogers seconded a motion to waive the one-year membership requirement for Board candidates. After some discussion, the motion passed.

### 8. Elections to fill Board of Director vacancies:

Joni Paddock read short biographies for each of the candidates. Voting will be by Election Buddy.

9. Elections to fill Nominating Committee vacancies:

Jane Zaun introduced each of the candidates. Voting will be by Election Buddy.

10. Recommendations of Social Justice 2020-2021 Share the Plate organizations:

Jane explained the process for selecting nine organizations for Share the Plate over the next fiscal year and referred anyone with questions to the Chair of the Social Justice Committee. Voting will be by Election Buddy.

11. Other matters that may arise during the Annual Meeting:

Jane Zaun opened the meeting for questions.

12. Adjournment:

Jane Zaun adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Rod Belshee

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Date Approved

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May 19, 2020