

**Community Church of Chapel Hill Unitarian Universalist
Board Meeting Minutes
June 14, 2016**

Attending:	Cathy Cole	Bill Poteat	Dan Hill
	Kathy Hodges	Mike Vann	Bill Rote
	Katie Heineman	Bryan Sexton	Pete Bird
Ex Officio:	Thom Belote	Laurence Kirsch	Richard Edwards
Guests:	Nora Smith	Paige Smith	

1. Welcome

- a. **Chalice Lighting/Reading** – Laurence Kirsch opened the meeting with a reading.
- b. **Sharing** –

2. Approval of Tonight’s Agenda – Bill Poteat provided a copy of the proposed agenda in advance of the meeting.

Bill Poteat made a motion to approve the agenda as proposed.

All in favor with none opposing.

3. May Minutes – Reviewed minutes with amendments. Bill Poteat recommended adding the letter to the UUA as an attachment to the minutes. Also discussed whether more information was needed in Section 11.b.—referencing the controversial Business Resolution being presented at General Assembly. Discussed including link to UUA website where readers of the minutes can review the resolution on their own.

Bill Poteat made a motion to approve the May minutes as amended

Katie Heineman seconded the motion.

All in favor with none opposing. May minutes are approved.

4. Minister’s Report – Thom Belote announced that Peter Bonzani will be leaving the Religious Education Assistant role at the end of June. The RE Committee will be recognizing Peter on his final day as RE Assistant. The Minister’s Report was provided to the Board in advance of the meeting and is attached to these minutes. Discussed specifics over attendance, particularly where adult education (Spiritual Education for Adults) is concerned.

Annual Pledge Drive Thank You Notes – Thom also presented the thank you letter that will be sent to members of the congregation who have submitted their pledge of financial support to the church. Letters were signed by Board Members and will be submitted electronically.

5. Annual Meeting Recap/Minutes – Reviewed minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 6/12/16. Cathy Cole made a motion to approve the minutes as presented.

Mike Vann seconded the motion.

Discussed Robert's Rules of Order, which allow minutes to be approved only by the assembly that held the meeting, which in this case is the congregation rather than the Board. Hence, the Board cannot "approve" the minutes; so Cathy Cole modified her motion to "affirm" the minutes from the annual meeting.

Mike Vann seconded the motion.

All in favor with none opposing. Minutes are affirmed.

6. Board Committee Activity –

Bill Poteat made a motion to go into closed session to discuss Board Committees.

Katie Heineman seconded the motion.

All in favor with none opposing.

The Board went into closed session to discuss Board Committees.

The Board came out of closed session.

The Board approved two new members of the Nominating Committee: Steve Warshaw and Elsbeth Van Tongeren.

7. General Assembly Delegates, Accreditation – Bill Rote presented a list of proposed delegates of General Assembly. They are: Allison Andrade; Sara Gush; Mary Hulett; Peggy Misch; Aiden Williams; Frankie Price-Stern; Ruth Gibson; and Marion Hirsch. Thom Belote will be attending as well. Julia Pelletier may also be attending. Ruth Gibson and Frankie Price-Stern will be attending as offsite delegates. Discussed expectations for representation – historically, delegates are not charged to vote in a specific way, but rather, allowed to vote their conscience. Also discussed qualifications for delegates both as church members and staff members of the church.

Bill Rote made a motion that the Board approve the slate of delegates as representatives of The Community Church, including Julia Pelletier, if she becomes qualified.

Katie Heineman seconded the motion.

Motion carried with seven in favor and one opposed (Cathy Cole).

Further discussed the fact that there is nothing in the Bylaws that specifically addresses the authority of our delegates to GA with respect to whether their opinions represent those of the church as a whole. Next year's GA will include elections for major UUA offices. The Board asked the Governance Committee to investigate modifications to the Bylaws and Board Policy having to do with accreditation of GA delegates for future years.

8. CHCP Task Force & Town Hall Meeting – Discussed the Chapel Hill Cooperative Preschool's decision to build a new facility on land to which they have already acquired rights and appropriate zoning approvals. The Preschool has made a request to be refunded their portion of the cost of engaging the architect for planning purposes. [After the meeting, this amount was determined to be about \$4,500.] A previous Board had

promised the Preschool such a refund if we did not proceed together with an expansion of our facility.

Bill Poteat moved that we repay the CHCP the architect's fees the Preschool contributed to, with funds to be debited to the Capital Fund.

Katie Heineman seconded the motion.

Motion passed with seven in favor, one abstention (Dan Hill), and none opposed.

Discussed plans for tomorrow's Town Hall Meeting of the congregation concerning space exploration and expansion. Reviewed information content to be presented to the congregation and collected feedback from Board Members to ensure presentation is thorough and accurate. Bill Poteat will lead the presentation and topics will include information about space needs based upon member and staff input; the negotiations with the CHCP; loan and financial information around costs for space expansion and renovations; and next steps for moving forward. Presentation will close with comments from Thom Belote. Information will be presented at a Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday, June 15th at 7pm.

Discussed the prospective Space Reassessment Task Force which will update the space assessment by communicating with various interests within the church around space needs. Its charter and composition will be confirmed via email vote. Discussed a variety of means of gathering input, including surveys, focus groups, and individual conversations. Bill Poteat will ask for volunteers at the Town Hall meeting to help vet space requirements

The Board thanked the CHCP Task Force for their service, noting they will be disbanded after tomorrow night's meeting.

9. Temporary Restricted Funds Discussion – Tabled for future meeting.

10. Financial Review, Status – Tabled for future meeting.

11. Closing –

Bill Poteat made a motion that the meeting be adjourned.

Mike Vann seconded the motion.

All in favor with none opposing. Meeting was adjourned at 9:06 pm.

a. Process Observations -- none

b. Action Items –

- i.** Ask the Governance Committee to consider policy recommendations regarding General Assembly delegates and submit to the Board.
- ii.** Paige Smith will update the town hall presentation in advance of tomorrow's meeting.
- iii.** Paige Smith and Cathy Cole will submit a proposed charter for the Space Reassessment Task Force and a list of members, both for Board approval by email vote.

c. Closing

JUNE 14, 2016 PRELIMINARY BOARD AGENDA

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>RESPONSIBLE PERSON</u>	<u>END TIME</u>
Welcome		
Chalice Lighting/Reading	Laurence	7:02
Sharing	Board	7:12
Approval of Tonight's Agenda	Bill P.	7:15
May Minutes	Bill P.	7:20
Minster's Report	Thom	7:30
APD Thank-you Notes		
Annual Meeting Recap (minutes)	Bill P.	7:35
Board Committee Activity (closed)	Bill P.	7:45
GA Delegates, Accreditation	Bill R.	7:55
CHCP Task Force & Town Hall Mtg.	Cathy/Bill P.	8:55
If time allows:		
Temp Restricted Funds	Laurence	
Financial Review, Status	Dan	
Closing	Laurence	9:00
Process Observations		
Action Items		
Closing Words		

June Minister's Report
Rev. Thom Belote
6/14/16

Items of Interest to the Board

- Preached and led worship on 5/29. Will preach and lead worship on 6/12. Participated in Coming of Age service on 5/15 and Rising Up service on 6/5.
- Was arrested on 5/16 at the North Carolina General Assembly for civil disobedience as part of the Moral Monday protests against HB2. Other UU ministers arrested this spring include Rev. Deb Cayer of ERUUF, Rev. Sasha Ostrom of UUFR, and C3HUU member Dick Weston. We are being defended pro-bono by Durham attorney Scott Holmes, the winner of 2 IndyWeek "Best of the Triangle 2016" awards for his progressive activism.
- Attended Orange County Justice United clergy lunch to receive updates on Justice United's two major campaigns for the summer and fall.
- Attended NC NAACP press conference to announce new flavor of Ben & Jerry's ice cream.
- Co-led, with Dan Hill, a Budget Town Hall on 5/22.
- Hosted at my home a New Member Reception on 6/5.
- Am currently co-leading, with Rachel Rose, the sixth and final Exploring Membership class of this church year. Six are enrolled in this class.
- Meetings included: Committee on Ministry, Worship Ministry, Pastoral Caregivers, Sanctuary for Dialogue (June 12), Space Expansion Town Hall task force, etc.
- Spent time taking care of administrative details related to end of the year. Web-site changes, church policies, meeting with staff, etc.

Summer Schedule

- Off day-time hours on June 13-15 (preschool closed.)
- Out of town with family June 16-19.
- Attending UUMA Ministry Days and General Assembly in Columbus, Ohio. June 20-25.
- Vacation / Study Leave June 26-July 26.

June Minister's Report—Continued 2015 -2016 Year in Review

Worship

- Developed and led 35 Sunday morning worship services plus Christmas Eve.
- My letter of call is unclear about number of services I'm responsible for, but seems to expect that I will lead 34 services per year.
- Between 8/1/15 and 6/12/16 I was present for all but three Sundays: 10/4 (spoke at ordination in Columbus, Ohio), 12/27 (out of town), and 4/17 (out of town.)
- Present for music services in winter and spring, children's pageant, campus ministry service, Distinguished Guest Minister weekend, Coming of Age service (brief speaking role), and Rising Up service (brief speaking role.)
- Guest preachers included: Rev. John Crestwell, rev. charlie kast (twice), Rev. Randy Lewis, and musician David Roth.
- Led the Preaching Practicum class and prepared 6 members of our community to preach during the summer.

Adult Religious Education

- Delivered the SEA kickoff lecture and led three classes in fall 2015.
- Led four SEA classes in the spring of 2016.
- Next year I plan to decrease my teaching significantly and use Thursdays to build and strengthen relationships with organizations that will help us further our mission.

Membership

- Rachel Rose and I co-lead the Exploring Membership class six times since August.
- Since August we have had 63 new members join the church.
- Current membership is approximately 385, which includes 10 youth members.
- As we do each year, we will do a membership purge in July. We expect to remove approximately 15 members.

Members who have been / will be removed from membership since January 2016:

Five deaths: Brad Barker, Bud Godreau, David Lederer, Gwil Owen, Bob Weston

Liz Bryan & Spence Foscoe – moving to live close to grandchild

Sue Ferguson – diagnosed with terminal illness; moved to receive care from daughter

Sally Freeman – moved to live on the coast

Erin Shanle – moved to Virginia, “the church was important to me when I was going through a difficult time”

Johannes Wesselhoeft – moved to Europe to begin international degree program

Moir Killoran – moved to Asheville

Shelley DeFosset – responded that she is no longer active in the church

Carolyn Eastwood – responded that she is no longer active in the church

Emily Gordon – asked to be removed from membership

Richard Perry and Mia Prior – asked to be removed from membership

June Minister's Report—Continued

We are still waiting to receive pledges from the following folks: Jim & Delight Allen, Jean Baynes & Jane Freund, Bill Collins, Meg Moran, John & SaraBeth Nelson, Rob Perkins, Barbara Rimer & Bernard Glassman



June 7, 2016

Mr. Bill Poteat
Board Chair
Community Church
106 Purefoy Road
Chapel Hill, NC

Dear Bill,

On behalf of the Chapel Hill Cooperative Preschool board of directors, I am writing to share our thoughts regarding the future location of the preschool. We understand that the successful growth of The Community Church's congregation over the years has resulted in increased demand for space during the daytime and evenings. Thank you for approaching us two years ago when you tasked members of your congregation to conduct a Space Assessment for your proposed building expansion.

As you know, Chapel Hill Cooperative Preschool was founded by Community Church members over 60 years ago. Throughout our existence, we have leased Community Church space for our 2-5 year old programs. Two decades ago, we expanded to an additional site for infants and toddlers. The two year long process working with your Space Assessment Team planted a seed of excitement of achieving a dream to build one location and consolidate our two sites. We believed doing so alongside The Community Church was an extraordinary opportunity given our long held, close relationship, and we had hoped for a continued partnership as a tenant in your new building.

We now understand that the fiscal realities for your Church and for the Preschool have not made that combined option possible. Perhaps the overriding issue that could not be resolved is the desire of the Preschool to achieve the potential financial benefits of ownership. When that is achieved, we hope to more fully address socioeconomic diversity and access to high quality early childcare for local families through subsidized tuition and scholarships. Other potential benefits of a combined site, owned and operated by the Preschool, could offer operational and equipment efficiencies, a singular site for families with multiple children, and a unified network across all classrooms for teachers and children.

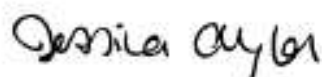
We appreciated your willingness to explore the idea to renovate the current space if the Preschool decided not to merge its operations. Unfortunately, we do want to merge and in addition this option is not plausible because the current space at The Community Church does not (nor can ever) meet North Carolina's minimum accreditation standards for early childhood education centers. In other words, our Preschool would have lost its "grandfathered" waiver of standards and subsequently lost its accreditation with any renovation. We understand the hard work your Church has put into evaluating all the options, and we respect The Community Church's need to move forward without the Preschool.

Since the Preschool learned that a joint project was not possible, our Board has worked diligently to identify alternatives for relocating its programs. After considerable thought and effort, our plan will be to build a new consolidated preschool facility in Chapel Hill.

It is with mixed emotions that we find ourselves parting ways after six decades, but we are immensely grateful that you assured us of a "graceful transition" for both organizations in the coming years of fundraising, construction, and dedication. Our current lease with The Community Church is through September 30, 2017, and we hope to have a building project timeframe from our engineering firm soon. We may need to request a modest lease extension and hope you will consider this once we can share more details. As you suggested further, we request the return our refundable contribution of the architecture fees (\$5,000) provided by the Preschool during the initial space assessment phase as a potential partner in your building.

On a final note, we do want to explore ways to honor "our roots" in the new Preschool building and hope you can connect us with members of your congregation who can help tell that story. Thank you for sharing your initial ideas and please let me know how you would like to proceed from here.

Sincerely,



Jessica Aylor
Chair, Board of Directors
Chapel Hill Cooperative Preschool