

## UUSJ April 21 Board Meeting Minutes

Present: Charlotte Jones-Carroll, Rev. Peggy Clarke, Chloe Emily Ockey, Rev. Kristin Schmidt, Meleah Houseknecht, Vonna Heaton, Mariano Vera, Serena Lowe, Johannes Favi, Pablo DeJesus

### Welcome / Chalice Lighting - Charlotte

- Check In - What has energized or de-energized you in the past few months?
- Comments by general membership - none submitted / requested
- Determination of Quorum and [approval of agenda](#) - Chloe Emily
  - Quorum reached - 7 board members present
  - Agenda approval:
    - One change: Rev. Peggy asks to move Vision to after ED report
      - No objections, change is made
- Consent Agenda: Minutes of January 2023 Board Meeting and Team reports approved
- Executive Director report - Pablo
  - Communications Assistant hiring – Ashley Egan
    - We have hired a quarter time assistant for 10 hours a week,
    - An uptick in our tweets and facebook posts
    - Learning organizational structure and guidelines
    - Chloe Emily, Pablo, and Ashley will be working on more focused social media outreach with the goal of growing our following, with a more intricate approach being developed in the near future.
    - 2023 General Assembly plans are being created
  - General Assembly presence – booth, reception, lunch for UUSJ participants
    - We have a booth in the exhibit hall.
    - In May we'll begin to query our contacts of who will be in attendance.
    - Showcasing materials - Sign ups, reception invite, action alerts, brochures, campaign materials
    - Reception - June 24th from 9:30 a.m.
    - Establishing a lunch for UUSJ Board members for connection - Friday at 1 p.m.
  - Upcoming advocacy plans – board members welcome to participate
    - Meetings on the Farm Bill - timeline on the bill is continuously changing, possible a vote may not occur until 2024.
      - Upcoming meeting with House Rep Thompson's office
      - A couple more meetings upcoming, links will be sent out by Pablo
    - Poor People's Campaign Gathering before GA in June
    - Priorities for UUSJ:
      - Farm Bill
      - Debt/Ceiling budget and proposed cuts to SNAP - being attached to Housing, Medicaid...
    - For the Board:
      - Attend the meetings when you can

- Pablo is putting together a presentation of what UUSJ has done in the past 18 months or so, will benefit the Annual Report
- [Vision for UUSJ](#) - Rev. Peggy
  - The work that we are doing is necessary
  - We have opportunity to lead, but not the capacity to
  - The next step is to increase our ability to make real change
  - A great document for the Nominating Committee to use in their upcoming conversations.
  - Endorsed more frequent shorter meetings – exact frequency TBD
  - Action #3 – Justice day materials – Rev. Kristin and Rev. Peggy, with Meleah also helping
  - Action #4 – GA-timed outreach already underway for this year
  - Action #5 - Adult RE program (for fee) – Meleah, Vonna, Pablo
  - Action # 6 - outreach to congregations in battleground states – Mariano
  - Action #7 – communications changes – Chloe with staff
  - Actions 8 and 10 – pinned for future discussion
  - Action #9 – short videos – to introduce UUSJ and to educate on legislation  
Rev. PEggy, Chloe, Staff
- Nomination Committee Update - Chloe Emily
  - 13 applications received; deadline for applications is on April 23rd
- Development Committee Update - Norma
  - No update, Norma not present
  - It does not exist in an active form, if we want development to happen it will need to be under new leadership.
- Treasurer's Report - Mariano
  - Congregational donations are way below expected mark
  - "Spring Solicitation"
    - Getting a quote from board members for targeted email campaign
    - Chloe will send a video of Rev. Peggy to Pablo
- Proposed FY 23-24 budget for comment - Pablo and Finance Committee
  - Laying out a budget as needed for next year that begins to move us towards where our base expects and wants us to be.
    - Better communication
    - Better volunteer coordination
    - Better fundraising capacity
  - Communications - Salsa is being shuttered, need a new contact database / web management system.
  - For future thought - what do we want to bring into a Staff capacity, and what would we like to hold and build up in the future?
  - No objections to UUSJ exceeding "Program" line item for 2023 General Assembly costs
- Other business –
  - June 16 Annual Meeting - Paulette will send registration and meeting information beforehand.
- Closing Reading and Adjournment - Seren