

**First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of Board of Trustees**

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

**Present:** Mark Chambers (Meeting Chair), Stacy Koenen (Recording Secretary), Dana Brooks, Ryan Pawlowski, Sarah Richards, Joe Riepenhoff, , Amy Wilbourne

**Attending via Zoom:** Elizabeth Hayes, Stacey Thieme and Noreen Gilbertson

**Also Present:** Jennifer Nordstrom, Jean Johnson

**The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM.**

- 1. Opening Sequence (Joe)**
- 2. Review/Consent Agenda (Mark)**  
Moved to approve the consent agenda/minutes and SM report.  
Moved: Sarah, seconded: Dana  
**Passed: Unanimous**
- 3. Consultant Budget Item for Revision of Ends(Stacy)**  
Motion: Approve budget addition to hire consultant to assist with revision of Ends in 2025-2026 church year.  
Moved by: Stacy, Seconded by: Amy  
**Passed: Unanimous**
- 4. 2025-2026 Budget (Jean & Noreen)**  
Motion: To approve the 2025-2026 budget with the addition of the consultant.  
Moved by: Dana, Seconded by: Joe  
**Passed: Unanimous**
- 5. Material deviation – fire and safety system (Jennifer)**  
Motion: The money set aside for air conditioning from the Kading Weiss bequest be used first for updates to the fire and alarm system.  
Moved by Joe, Seconded by Dana  
**Passed: Unanimous**

It has been recognized that the church fire and alarm system needs improvement for the safety of the congregation. A team has reviewed the current system and looked for single way to notify the congregation in an emergency. A professional assessment is needed. Currently the church uses household smoke alarms throughout the building. The first step requires new drawings and schematics of the building to develop a plan, which will cost \$12,000.

- 6. Move Memorial Trust into Endowment Fund (Joe)**  
We requested and received input on the Memorial Trust Fund from the EFTF Trustees. They agree that it would make sense to dissolve the Memorial Trust Fund and move the funds into the Endowment Fund. The Memorial Trust fund is out of compliance with its bylaws due to lack of a trustee. According to the bylaws of the Memorial Trust Fund the vote

must be done by mail. We will be unable to complete this work this church year. The Trustees will work with the Board next year to get the funds moved.

**7. Housing Loan for Rev. Long (Jennifer)**

Motion: Approve the housing loan for Rev. Long

Motion made by: Sarah, seconded by: Joe

**Passed:** Unanimous

It is traditional for the church to assist new ministers with a loan to cover their first and last month rent and deposit to move to the area. Elizabeth Lentini wrote of a loan contract.

**8. Annual Meeting Agenda (Stacy K)**

Motion: Approve the Annual Meeting agenda

Motion made by: Dana, seconded by: Ryan

**Passed:** Unanimous

**9. Task Group Follow-up**

The Anti-Racism team is recruiting new members. They are working on the Juneteenth service and getting in touch with the speaker for the event. They are planning a training in Spring for interrupting racism and a Fall training on cultural competency.

The Social Justice council is very excited about the funds from the Kading Weiss bequest.

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 PM**