



Minutes of the Annual Membership Meeting FY23-24 of the First Unitarian Congregational Society of Brooklyn

Approval vote 05.18.25

Meeting Leaders

Role	Name
Moderator (outgoing)	Patrick Gunn
Moderator (incoming)	James Broward
Assist. Minister	Meagan Henry
Co-president	Robin Bossert
Co-president	Lisa Pacenza
LDC Chair	Michele Weisman
Treasurer	Lee Pardee
Facilities Committee Chair	John Carroll

Attachments to the Minutes

Documents are identified by document title (not electronic file name).

Access Attachments:

<https://www.fuub.org/home/about-us/members/meeting-documents/>

Annual Meeting Agenda

Annual Report Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Minutes of the Congregational Meeting of the First Unitarian Congregational Society of Brooklyn 02.25.24 (Approval Draft)

Minutes of the Annual Membership Meeting of the First Unitarian Congregational Society of Brooklyn 05.21.23 (Approval Draft)

FY24-25 Officer Nominees for the Board of Trustees

Deacon Nominees 05.19.2024

FY24-25 Proposed Operating Budget; Proposed Capital Projects Budget; Operating Projects

Ceasefire Resolution

Proposed Change to Bylaws Article VI. Membership Meetings

Call to Order

The meeting was held in the Sanctuary of the First Unitarian Church. Moderator Patrick Gunn called the meeting to order at 1:00 and declared a quorum.

Rev. Meagan lit the chalice and offered opening words.

Appointment of the Parliamentarian, Timekeeper, and Election Inspectors

The Moderator noted that he will abstain from these and all votes during this meeting.

The Moderator appointed Elizabeth Davies as Parliamentarian and Mary Most as Timekeeper.

A motion was introduced to nominate Inspectors of Election as follows: Michelle Ascione and Charlotte Hoogenboom in the sanctuary and Pat Lawrence online (moved by Lee Pardee; seconded by Connie Newsom; approved unanimously by voice vote).

Review of the Agenda and Meeting Rules

The Moderator led the review of the Agenda, the Meeting Rules, and the Right Relations Covenant (see Attachments).

A motion was introduced to approve the Agenda; it was approved by voice vote.

Motions were introduced to adopt the Meeting Rules and the Covenant; they were approved by voice vote.

Approval of the Minutes of Previous Congregational Meetings

Annual Membership Meeting FY22–23

The Minutes of the Annual Membership Meeting FY22–23 having been posted for review by the Congregation in advance of the present meeting (see Attachments), a motion for approval was introduced (moved by Lisa Pacenza; seconded by Bob Bero; approved unanimously by voice vote).

Congregational Meeting 02.24.2024

The Minutes of the Congregational Meeting of 02.24.2024, having been posted for review by the Congregation in advance of the present meeting (see Attachments), a motion for approval was introduced (moved by Bob Bero; seconded by Georgia Larson; approved unanimously by voice vote).

Reports

Senior Minister's Report

Rev. Ana's report is contained in the Annual Report Fiscal Year 2023-2024. See Attachments.

Assistant Minister's Report

Rev. Meagan's report is contained in the Annual Report Fiscal Year 2023-2024. See Attachments.

Co-Presidents' Report

Board Co-Presidents Robin Bossert and Lisa Pacenza reported on total membership, acceptance of new members into the congregation and congregational milestones. A written report is included in Annual Report Fiscal Year 2023-2024. See Attachments.

The co-presidents gave an update from the Interim Search Committee, saying that a verbal agreement is now in place with our chosen candidate for Interim Minister to begin their 2-year ministry at FirstU on 08.01.24.

Election of the Board of Directors FY24-25

The Leadership Development Committee having posted "2024-2025 Officer Nominees For the Board of Trustees" for review by the Congregation in advance of the present meeting, LDC Chair Michele Weisman introduced the slate of nominees. The slate comprised 3 Trustees to serve 3-year terms; 1 Trustee to complete the last year of Lisa Pacenza's term; and nominees for Clerk and Moderator of the Society, who serve 1-year terms.

A motion was introduced to elect the slate. (moved by Michele Weisman; seconder not noted; approved unanimously by voice vote).

The LDC submitted a written report of their activities in FY23-24 to the Annual Report. See Attachments.

Treasurer's Report and Vote on the Budget

Treasurer Lee Pardee reported orally on matters under her purview, referencing written information on slides projected for perusal by the congregation. These had been posted for review by the congregation in advance of the present meeting. See Attachments. In summary, Lee noted that we are "doing pretty well."

A motion was introduced to approve the Proposed Operating Budget for FY24-25 (moved by Lee Pardee; seconded by Becky Huffman; approved by voice vote with one abstention).

A motion was introduced to approve the Proposed Capital Projects Budget (moved by Lee Pardee; seconded by Vonda Brunsting; approved unanimously by voice vote).

Facilities Committee Report

John Carroll, Facilities Committee Chair for FY23-24, noted vacancies on the Committee for the coming FY. He requested volunteers for committee co-chairs.

The committee submitted a written report to the published Annual Report. See Attachments.

Presentation and Motion on Gaza Ceasefire Resolution

The Young Adult Ministry having posted the text of a resolution in advance of the present meeting (see Attachments), a motion was introduced that would commit FirstU to take action as described in the resolution (moved by Taylor Murray; seconded by Julie Bero). Discussion of the motion was joined by several meeting attendees, wherein it emerged that the congregation was unclear about the meaning of the motion and the proposed actions.

Another motion was introduced to table the open motion pending wider discussion; and add consideration of the motion to the agenda of the next congregational meeting, scheduled for 11.17.24 (moved by Becky Huffman; seconder unknown; approved by a hand vote of 54 attendees).

Presentation Regarding Revision of Article II of the UUA Bylaws

At the recent UUA General Assembly, a change to Article II of the UUA Bylaws was approved. Since this change had been a matter of great interest within our congregation, the Board invited Julie Elting, one of our GA delegates, to give a presentation regarding the discussion and the vote. Discussion was minimal and no motion was introduced.

Proposed Amendment to the Congregational Bylaws

The Board of Trustees, having agreed upon a change to Article VI Membership Meetings of our Bylaws and having posted the existing text and proposed revisions in advance of the present meeting, a motion was introduced to approve the revision (moved by Lisa Pacenza; seconder unknown; approved unanimously by a voice vote). See Attachments.

Election of Deacons

A motion was introduced to elect deacons (moved by Connie Newsom; seconded by Bob Bero; approved unanimously by voice vote).

Closing Words and Adjournment