BOARD MISSION

To provide leadership that supports the church's mission through effective policies and responsible stewardship.

BOARD COVENANT

We covenant to: Respect time by following a timed agenda and reviewing meeting materials prior to arrival, respect differing opinions, listen without interrupting, make space for all, remember the big picture, meet no longer than one hour unless there is a vote to extend the meeting for up to 30 minutes, speak with one voice once a decision has been made, focus on church business, refrain from micromanagement, work within the context of the UUA.

UNITARIAN CHURCH OF HINSDALE – BOARD OF TRUSTEES – MINUTES
Saturday, July 27, 2024 - Time: 1:15 PM Central Time

APPROVED AT 8/14/2024 MEETING

Meeting At: Room 6, UCH, 17 W. Maple, Hinsdale, IL 60521
Note: This meeting was convened during the Board Retreat held on Saturday, July 27 from 9:00 a.m.
In attendance: David Mrazek (President), Karen McDowell (Vice President), Dave May (Treasurer), Marian Honel-Wilson (Secretary), and Trustees-at-Large Susan Stephens, Karin Janowski, Eric Haas, Rev. Dr. Beth Johnson (Minister)
Absent: N/A
Visitors: N/A

A. Call to Order/Welcome Visitors
The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m.

B. Discussion of Board Covenant
After review of the Board Covenant, a motion to strike the language "meet no longer than one hour unless there is a vote to extend the meeting for up to 30 minutes" from the language of the Board Covenant was made by Karin J. and seconded by Karen M. The motion passed.

BOARD COVENANT

We covenant to: Respect time by following a timed agenda and reviewing meeting materials prior to arrival, respect differing opinions, listen without interrupting, make space for all, remember the big picture, ~~meet no longer than one hour unless there is a vote to extend the meeting for up to 30 minutes~~, speak with one voice once a decision has been made, focus on church business, refrain from micromanagement, work within the context of the UUA.

C. Check-in
Check-in conducted.

D. Approval of June Board Minutes
Karen moved to approve. Susan seconded. Minutes approved.

E. Finance Discussion
a. FY2025 Spending Updates – Dave May distributed handouts of 7/27/24 Treasurer Report and UCH Funds Report, as well as an Income and Expense Statement for the period July 2023 – June 2024. As of 7/27/24, the amount of funds available for operations is $87,507. As of the end of the fiscal year, 6/30/24, revenue was about $20K less than budgeted and expenses were about $10K more than budgeted, primarily because of increased costs of insurance, electricity, and trash collection. The result is a net $30K deficit. There are approximately $15K of pledges not paid. Dave noted that a financial report to the congregation as of June 30, 2024 was posted in News and Notes.
b. Dave reviewed the UCH Funds report and indicated that the Schwab money market account increases by about 5% on an annual basis. Recently, the funds held in Fidelity accounts were up to due stock market increases. The "subfunds" consist of funds held in

the general fund but earmarked for specific purposes. Dave noted that the Searle Memorial fund ($7,420) can be used for any purpose as per Ellie Searle. And, that the $724 in the Green Home fund could perhaps we used for a new water heater.

F. Heads Up Business

a. David reviewed the agenda item about forming a Committee on Shared Ministry, which could be done concurrent to the Contract to Call process.

b. David reviewed the agenda item about the Minister and designated leaders of the congregation completing Progress Appraisals according to the process and schedule in the UUA Transitional Ministry Handbook (page 46).

c. David reviewed the agenda item about the Contract to Call, which in Rev. Beth's contract is the period from March 1, 2023 to July 1, 2025. He indicated that in the next year, the congregation needs to be polled on whether there is a majority wishing to call Rev. Beth. The Minister has the option to become a candidate for the Congregation's called ministry through the process identified in the UUA Transitional Ministry Handbook (page 77). He indicated that Rev. Beth needs to have a sense of how the congregation feels by December 2024 and needs to know by January 2025, because the search process for UUA ministers begins each year in December. It was further noted that recently, smaller congregations have been encouraged by the UUA to contract a minister and then "contract to call" that minister, because the regular "call" process takes more time and money. Dave also noted that the Board of Trustees could defer the process and extend the contractual agreement with Rev. Beth for an additional year. In that case, the Board of Trustees should notify the Minister by March 1, 2025. A one-year extension would extend her contract to July of 2026.

d. David raised a question about core tasks versus responsibilities of paid staff and volunteers. Rev. Beth indicated this was part of the organizational development planning that is listed as a goal or "end" for the next year.

e. David asked the board to consider the Wise Elders' request to incorporate "senior issues" into the congregational programming. Rev. Beth indicated this is underway and is part of the community circle.

G. Other Business

a. Dave brought up the issue of replacing the current gas-powered water heater with an electric water heater. He noted that the water heater is the only remaining natural gas appliance, and it costs UCH a minimum monthly $50 payment for the gas line. He indicated that it isn't clear from the Board's minutes whether the purchase of a new water heater has been authorized. Dave moved and Karin J. seconded the motion authorizing the purchase of a water heater and delegating the decision to the Building and Grounds Circle Coordinator, Gene Schafer. Marian agreed to get information on a heat pump water heater and convey that information to Gene. Motion passed.

H. Write-Ins (none)

I. Executive Session (none)

J. Adjourn

Karen M. motioned to adjourn, and Karin J. seconded. The Board Meeting adjourned at 1:44 p.m. and we returned to close out the retreat.