

**Minutes—draft**  
**Annual Congregational Meeting: May 21, 2023**  
**First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh**

**Board Members Attending:** Amy DeChicchis (2024); Kate Snow, Secretary (2023); Raeann Olander, Vice President (2025); Nicholas Izzo (2025); Heather Masterson (2023); Bob Mitchell (2024); Christine Milcarek (2025)

**Absent Members:** Rob Schwartz, President (2024); Kyle Gracey, Treasurer (2023)

1. Call to Order and Welcome Raeann Olander-Murray, Board Vice-President (12:17)
2. Opening Words & Chalice Lighting Chris Milcarek, Board Member. “We shall be known by the company we keep”
3. A quorum was established. There are 79 eligible voters.
4. Opening Hymn “May Nothing Evil Cross This Door” #1
5. Approval of 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes. Kate Snow, Board Secretary. Minutes stand as submitted.
6. President’s Report (Rob) Raeann Olander-Murray, Board Vice-President (See online document).
7. Minister’s Report Rev. Dr. Kate R. Walker (report online).
  - a. The religious landscape now is difficult. Many UU congregations have not matched with a settled or interim minister. Many seminarians do not want to do parish work.
  - b. We need to be a counter-oppressive religious community.
  - c. Recently the Board has approved a Program Leadership Council, to form in August/September.
  - d. This week the solar panels will finally be installed on the Mason Wing.
  - e. You can vote downstairs today for the next six organizations that will be a part of Share the Plate for next year.
8. LRED’s Report Erica Shadowsong (report online)
  - a. Please take pictures in the coming year of our LRED activities.
  - b. Highlighting activities
    - i. Pumpkin decorating
    - ii. HEPA filter construction
    - iii. Khasi Hills with Margaret Barr
    - iv. Egg hunt.
9. Music Director’s Report Ellen Gozion, Director of Instrumental Music (report online)
  - a. It’s been a delight performing and working in person. The tech crew has been great.
  - b. We have been supporting the Pittsburgh Community Gamelan orchestra.
  - c. For Flower Communion, we have a quintet of youth performing.
  - d. Kris has been great with the Community Singers, and a real advocate for diversity, equity, and inclusion.

10. Financial Report Ward Kelsey, Investment Manager (report on-line)
  - a. We ended the year in a strong financial position.
  - b. Our income came in at 104% of the budget! Our budget was set at \$532,197, with a net for the year \$25,329.
  - c. We have a special debt of gratitude for those members and friends who have remembered First Unitarian in their estates.
  - d. We are making sure that our investments are in line with our principles.
11. Annual Report Kate Snow, Board Secretary (document online)
  - a. There is much more activity at church and in the community these days. Please go to the report online to see all of the committee reports, and if you are someone who likes picture books, there are plenty of pictures.
12. Nominating Committee Report Kathy Rohrer, Nominating Committee Co-Chair
  - a. Presentation of nominees for Board and Nominating Committee
13. VIM (Vision, Identity, Mission) Report Bob Mitchell, Board Member (document online)
  - a. This is a standing committee of the Board of Trustees.
  - b. What is our vision? What is our plan for achieving that? Two main goals:
    - i. Diversify and grow membership
    - ii. Advancing partnerships that advance social justice.
  - c. The committee needs two more members. Please bring forward your name if you are interested.
14. Environmental Justice Update Sonia Wellington, Environmental Justice Action Team (report online). This was our first year working as an Action Team.
  - a. Direct action
  - b. Public advocacy
  - c. Changing our own actions.
15. Procedures for Voting Raeann Olander-Murray, Board President and Nick Izzo, Election Manager (document online)
16. VOTE: Board of Trustees and Nominating Committee, 2023 – 2026
  - a. Nominees for Board of Trustees: Brian Junker, Kyle Gracie, Jean Schmidt
  - b. Nominees for Nominating Committee: Karen Burns, Nancy Latimer, Lee Carnes
17. General Questions from the Congregation Raeann Olander-Murray, Board Vice-President, moderator
  - a. There were no questions from the floor or on Zoom.
18. Voting Results Nick Izzo, Election Manager. All candidates are elected to their positions.
19. Closing Hymn “Where Is Our Holy Church” #113
20. Benediction Rev. Dr. Kate R. Walker, Minister (1:33)

Respectfully submitted,  
Kurt Summersgill, Recording Secretary  
Approved: