

Board of Trustees

MEETING: March 12, 2018, 8:00 pm, Eastern Time

Pursuant to notice duly given, this meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Universalist Association was held via Zoom conferencing.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tim Atkins, Greg Boyd, Kathy Burek, Susan Frederick-Gray (President), Dick Jackie, Tanner Linden, Manish Mishra-Marzetti, Patrick McLaughlin, Denise Rimes, Christina Rivera (Secretary), Lucia Santini Field (Financial Advisor), Elandria Williams (Co-Moderator).

ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANTS: Carey McDonald (Recording Secretary & COO), Leslie Takahashi

Observers - Chris Walton, Kim Hampton, Debra Gray Boyd, Laura Conkle, Jamie Hinson-Rieger, David Shay

Meeting Minutes

Co-Moderator Elandria Williams called the meeting to order at 8:01 pm. Tanner Linden offered an opening reading, and Board members and participants did a brief check-in. Approval of the minutes was postponed to the April meeting, and Board members agreed to send around informal notes following each meeting.

Leslie Takahashi provided a brief report from the Commission on Institutional Change, noting that one consultant and two staff members have now been hired by the Commission. She noted the Commission will be speaking with religious professionals of color at the Finding Our Way Home retreat, and anticipates releasing its findings in April on last year's process for hiring the UUA Southern Regional Lead. The Commission is also encouraging congregations to read "Centering" as part of the UUA Common Read.

Co-Moderator Williams raised the question of how the Board can anticipate the upcoming report from the COIC, and members affirmed their desire respond to the report soon after it comes out. Members agreed to try to join a Zoom call to shortly after its release of the report to determine their response.

Reporting from the Article II working group, Patrick McLaughlin noted that the group has a desire to revisit the ways the principles and purposes interact with the bylaws, but the group has been unsure of its scope and authorization. Board members described a desire for a broad, inclusive process for congregational members to participate in a reconsideration of the principles and purposes as well as the bylaws as a whole. They agreed to spend time at the April meeting to create a charge for a bylaw review commission and design the process for democratic stakeholder and community engagement in the coming year.

Carey McDonald shared that the UUA currently has over \$110,000 set aside for scholarships for General Assembly this year, including funds from both the administration and the GA Planning Committee, which will be prioritized overall for applicants who identify as people of color and hold other marginalized identities.



The Board agreed to review via email the drafted text of bylaw changes approved at the February meeting, and to make any other necessary revisions at the April Board meeting.

Describing its role at General Assembly, the Board noted they will have matching shirts and office hours and will ensure there are multiple roles for Board members on the GA stage. Members Kathy Burek, Denise Rimes, Tim Atkins, Greg Boyd, Manish Mishra-Marzetti, Christina Rivera and Patrick McLaughlin agreed to be part of a GA Board Engagement Planning Team.

For the April Board meeting, the agenda is currently planned to include discussion on the following items:

- Article II revisions and the overall bylaw review process;
- General Assembly;
- Needs of religious professionals of color;
- Balancing the requirements of Board service with the demands of a full-time job; and
- The possibility of restarting a finance committee.

Noting that other possible bylaw changes were tabled at the January meeting, the co-moderators stated there would be opportunity at the October Board meeting to continue those conversations.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Tim Atkins moved to go into executive session, with Kathy Burek seconding and unanimous agreement, at 9:16 pm. Tim Atkins moved to stay in executive session, with Patrick McLaughlin seconding and unanimous agreement.

Following their Executive Session, the Board announced the appointment of Ken Redd to the Investment Committee.

Board members and observers offered a personal check-out and Dick Jacke shared closing words. Co-Moderator Williams provided a closing gratitude and blessing, and adjourned the meeting at 9:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Carey McDonald

Recording Secretary



BOARD OF TRUSTEES SCHEDULE

- **Meeting: April, 2018, Boston, MA**
Friday, April 20 - Saturday, April 21, 2018
- **Videoconference Meeting: May 2018**
Thursday, May 24, 2018
Meeting URL: <http://zoom.us/j/525980325>
Meeting ID: 525 980 325
Phone: (646) 558-8656
- **Meetings: June 2018, Kansas City, MO**
Tuesday, June 19—Wednesday, June 20: Board of Trustees Meeting
Wednesday, June 20—Sunday June 24: General Assembly
Monday, June 25: Board of Trustees Meeting

