

## MEETING MINUTES - FUUCA Board of Trustees

### Meeting

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| <b>Date</b>       | Tuesday, May 18, 2021  |
| <b>Started</b>    | 6:30 PM  |
| <b>Ended</b>      | 8:30 PM (CST)  |
| <b>Location</b>   | Zoom <a href="https://zoom.us/my/firstuuaustin">https://zoom.us/my/firstuuaustin</a> password = 512452 |
| <b>Purpose</b>    | Regular scheduled meeting  |
| <b>Chaired by</b> | Elias Ponvert  |
| <b>Recorder</b>   | Toni Wegner  |

### Attendance

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| <b>Present:</b>        | Meg Barnhouse, Rob Hirschfeld, Russell Holley-Hurt, Chris Jimmerson, Sadie Lambert, Nesan Lawrence, Elias Ponvert, Bear Qolezcua, Kelly Raley, Kristen Ray, Dave Riehl, Nathan Walther, Toni Wegner |
| <b>Regrets:</b>        | Leo Collas  |
| <b>Absent:</b>         | Leena Batra, Shannon Posern   |
| <b>Invited guests:</b> | Isla Ferguson, Rebecca Throop   |

### Minutes

## 1. Coming Back into Covenant

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### 1.1. Chalice Lighting and Opening Words

Rob read the poem, Butterfly, the Creature of Change and Survival, by Aisha Sherazi, and Elias lit the chalice.

**Status:** Completed

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### 1.2. Reading of Board Covenant

With the Values, Mission and Ends of First UU Austin foremost in mind, we the leadership do covenant to:

- Treat our time together and board commitments as spiritual practice
- Work collaboratively to clarify, assess and further our mission.
- Respect our time together by being focused, prepared and timely.
- Keep confidentiality when it is requested.
- Listen actively, address concerns directly with each other in a timely manner, and encourage others to do the same.
- Presume good faith in all our interactions acknowledging the importance of both intention and impact.
- Conduct ourselves openly, show compassion, respect boundaries, and enjoy each other's good humor in times of agreement and disagreement.
- Publicly support one another's decisions and leadership by speaking with one voice at the end of our deliberations.
- Agree to be called back into covenant.

Elias read the covenant.

**Status:** Completed

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### 1.3. Confirm Timekeeper and Process Evaluator

Confirmed Nesan as time keeper and Kelly as process evaluator.

**Status:** Completed

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### 1.4. Approve Agenda and Consent Agenda

Kelly moved to approve the agenda and consent agenda. Seconded by Rob. Approved by unanimous consent

**Status:** Completed

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#### Documents

- March2021Financials.pdf
  - Program Development Report April 2021.pdf
  - Minutes-2021-04-20-v1.pdf
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## 2. Connecting with our Moral Ownership

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### 2.1. Visitor's Forum

Nesan welcomed visitors Isla Ferguson and Rebecca Throop, from the high school youth group.

- Zoom fatigue has been an issue for one, but the other lives out of town and was happy to be able to attend meetings remotely.
- The youth group has done a small group ministry using the Soul Matters curriculum, which they have enjoyed. They also loved the package pickup.
- They said they would like more intergenerational activity, including bringing adults into the youth room to discuss what is happening at the church. It was suggested they invite a member of the board to attend a meeting next year.
- When asked what might make it more inviting for bridging seniors to stay engaged with the church, they said they liked the Soul Matters curriculum but that it's hard to keep young adults engaged when they go off to college.
- Ideas discussed: specific youth adult programming; game nights not so family-focused; high schoolers being mentors or in a guidance position with middle and elementary students; training for rallies and activism

**Status:** Completed

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### 2.2. Recognition of Church Volunteers and Staff

Church volunteers and staff mentioned. Many have been thanked before; pick a few we haven't recognized recently.

- Isla and Rebecca for coming to the board meeting
- Shannon - for all of the administration and front line
- Kami helps with a variety of things
- Kelly (and her helper Reginee) have done a wonderful job helping kids stay engaged, and with care packages
- We couldn't have done this year without Sage!
- Bear deserves thanks for Monday Faith Connections and hours putting services together
- Brent and Katrina continue to do a great job
- Bill Sinkford, who was recently a guest minister

**Status:** Completed

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### 2.3. Moment with Meg

- Will be working with Chris on the budget for next year
- Met with reopening team last Saturday and talked about the new CDC guidelines
- For the Sunday, May 30th in-person coffee hour, masks will be optional
- Still doing research on singing together, but there will be music when we're back in person
- In-person return is tied to number of cases in Travis and Williamson counties
- Kelly will continue to record stories so children don't have to come forward; RE classes will be outside; Kelly is buying tents (no sides) and cooling fans

**Status:** Completed

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### 2.4. Spring congregational meeting

Brief review of the Spring congregational meeting, and a call for Zoom assistance

- The Spring Congregational meeting is coming up (5/23)
- Rev Meg will talk about reopening and mention Alirio's status
- New board members and nominating committee members will be presented and approved by acclamation
- Rob and Kelly agreed to be Zoom pilots
- For next year's Board to consider -- maybe we don't need a quorum to vote for new members

**Status:** Completed

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## 3. Monitoring our Progress

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### 3.1. Monitoring Committee

Elias reviewed the reports for the Governance Policy (3.0) and Board-Executive Relationship (4.0). The Board annual calendar was mostly done as scheduled this year. Elias reported partial compliance.

Some board members did not have a chance to review, so they were given to the end of the week to review. Pending no concerns by the end of the week, David motioned that the reports be provisionally accepted as written; Rob seconded. Motion passed by unanimous consent.

There as nothing else for the Monitoring Committee.

**Status:** Completed

Documents

- 3.0 Governance Process - Report - 2020-2021.pdf
  - 4.0 Board-Executive Relationship - Report - 2020-2021.pdf
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### 3.2. Policy Committee

Dave discussed the suggestion for adding a new Board policy; the finalized version of 3.2.2 is in the packet.

Dave motioned to amend the Board policies; Sadie seconded. Elias voiced in favor. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

**Status:** Completed

Documents

- 3.0 Governance Process - Proposed - 2021-2022(1).docx
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### 3.3. Board Engagment Committee

Sadie discussed the email Leo sent with all of the instructions for the Board engagement video on antiracism. This will highlight an incredible black woman in our community. Board members are asked to watch the video and share one reflection, then read from the provided script.

Leo is hoping to get materials by the 25th.

**Status:** Completed

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### 3.4. Linkage Committee

The Linkage Committee had no updates.

**Status:** Completed

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## 4. Learning & Creating the Future

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### 4.1. My Grandmother's Hands - Part III

Sadie led the discussion on the last part of the book. She posed two questions for board members to respond to:

1. What do you think of the statement, "If the U.S. is to grow out of white-body supremacy, the transformation must largely be led by white Americans? Is that intimidating? Scary? Why?"
2. How do you care for yourself, reach out for help and support to heal from the trauma of living surrounded by, harmed by, and affected by white-body supremacy culture?

Board members took turns sharing their thoughts.

**Status:** Completed

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## 5. Adjourn

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### 5.1. Action Items

Let's review the action items from this meeting and assign roles for:

- Readings
- Timekeeper
- Process Evaluator
- Snacks

To do's:

1. Let Elias know by the end of the week if you have any comments on monitoring reports for policies 3.0 and 4.0
2. Make your board engagement videos
3. Kristen to send thank you notes; Nesan offered to help

Elias congratulated Nesan who will soon be President-elect.

Roles for the June meeting:

Nesan will do the readings.

Chris will be time keeper.

Sadie will do the process evaluation.

We have concluded My Grandmother's Hands! Thanks to Meg for the book recommendation.



**Status:** Completed

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## 5.2. Process Evaluation

Kelly did the process evaluation - The meeting was very well run; we got through all the points.

Nesan did a great job as time keeper.

Sadie did a great job with the book discussion.

Everything is satisfactory.

**Status:** Completed

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## 5.3. Extinguishing the Chalice and Closing Words

Dave read a closing reading by Cynthia Landrum, and Elias extinguished the chalice.

**Status:** Completed

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