

KUUF Annual Meeting Minutes – June 1, 2025

Opening and Welcome

- The meeting was opened with welcoming remarks from Board President, Lora Repp, that reflected on the accomplishments of the past year:
 - KUUF moved into its own building, transforming a neglected space into a vibrant community hub.
 - The space has been shared with various community groups including faith leaders, social justice organizations, Cub Scouts, and others.
 - The fellowship hosted events like birthdays, memorials, adult education classes, the Goods and Services Auction, and "7+ Suppers."
 - Sunday services featured diverse guest speakers, and members participated in advocacy activities.
 - Membership grew to **88 members**.
 - Gratitude was expressed for the numerous volunteers who contributed time and effort throughout the year.

Chalice Lighting

- The chalice was lit as a symbol of the mission and ministry of the fellowship

Agenda Items

- **Meeting Roles Appointed**
 - **Minutes:** Trista Gersie
 - **Parliamentarian:** Bill Fink
 - **2025 Minutes Review Committee:** Jane Bodi, Melissa Williamson, and John Gale
- **Quorum Certified**
 - Elen verified that quorum was met.
- **Approval of 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes**
 - Minutes had been reviewed by Linda Belote, Joan Chadde, and Linda Rullison.

*Beach/Fink motion **passed** unanimously.*

- **Board of Trustees Elections**
 - Thanks extended to outgoing board members:
 - Jane Bodi (Campus Ministry liaison, tech team, and more)
 - Elaine Eikenberry (Secretary and thoughtful board presence)
 - Pete Eckstrom (valued voice for balanced discussion)
 - Proposed slate requiring vote for 2025:
 - **Secretary:** Trista Gersie
 - **Treasurer:** Lori Swanson

- **Members-at-Large:** Julie Badel, Rosemary LeVeque, and Cindy Enderby (stepping down from Treasurer but joining board at-large)
- No nominations from the floor.

*Fink/Belote motion to elect new member and officers **approved unanimously.***

Lora Repp, Elen Maurer, John Gale, Melissa Williamson continue their terms on the board as well.

- **Nominating Committee Members for 2025**

- Approved members:
 - John Gale (continuing)
 - Ana Dyerson (continuing)
 - Linda Belote (new member)
- No nominations from the floor.

Badel/Williamson motion to approve the committee passed unanimously

- **Financial Report & 2025–2026 Proposed Budget**

Financial Report Highlights (Presented by Treasurer, Cindy):

2024 Operating Income: \$135,000

- Includes general income, building support, and fundraising.
- **Net Surplus:** Over \$30,000 (budget had anticipated breaking even)

Strong financial support continues to be a KUUF tradition.

Endowment Funds:

- Original gift from Susan Hooker's estate enabled the building purchase.
- ~\$70,000 of those funds remain, designated for future projects aligned with Susan's values.
- \$33,000 remains in building fund account for upcoming facility needs.

Unrestricted Funds:

- Total: \$161,000
 - Includes \$88,000 in checking and \$73,000 in CDs/savings.
- KUUF ends the year in a strong financial position.

- **Budget for 2025–2026:**

Anticipated Revenue: \$107,075

- Based on pledges, expected donations, fundraising, and interest.

Projected Expenses: \$107,075

- Covers daily operations, worship, building maintenance, etc...

Notes:

- Despite full budgeting, KUUF typically spends less than projected due to careful stewardship.
- A separate discussion is planned later for any budget items related to a future settled minister.

Budget Discussion Highlights:

- Operating costs lower than expected; operating the new building is cheaper than prior rent.
- Electricity much lower than budgeted due to LED lighting and low consumption.
- Snow removal Included in building maintenance; anticipated to be costly.
- Budget does not currently include a settled minister; that discussion will occur later.

Belote/Beach motion to approve the proposed budget unanimously approved.

- **Building Report Summary**

This marks nearly one full year in the new building (first service was July 7, 2024). The building has become a vibrant hub for both fellowship and community activity. Special thanks were given to John and Melissa for their leadership in building maintenance and management, and to all the volunteers who've helped along the way.

Regular Uses of the Building Include:

- Weekly Sunday services and monthly potlucks
- Monday meditations, Girl Scout meetings (2x/month), and Cub Scout pack meetings
- Friday DVD group and meetings of the Board, Land Acknowledgment group, and other committees
- Regular office presence by staff and volunteers
- Open House, Climate Justice Revival, multiple memorial services, a '70s dance party
- Interfaith luncheon, Cub Scout Pinewood Derby, potlucks, roller derby meetings, and more

- Most recently: the Coast Scout Blue & Gold Ceremony and Jim Wood's Memorial Service
- UU History & DVD series
- Keweenaw Mutual Aid Committee (KMAC)
- Advocates for Those Without a Voice Everywhere (A-WAVE)
- Animal Ministries painting events
- QA on Invisible sessions
- Green Burial film and other upcoming activities

Building Maintenance and Improvements:

- Light fixture upgrades, front door and bathroom fixes, new chairs ordered (20 blue ones)
- Security camera installed at the front entrance
- Noted issues with the roof, plumbing valve, and minor repairs
- Winter revealed problems with ice dams and drainage due to poor roof integration
- Repaired multiple times, but aging and poorly constructed where roof pitches meet
- Water drainage issues, particularly in winter due to ice dams
- Replace the entire roof with a new shingle roof (cost estimate: ~\$30,000)
 - Metal roofing was considered but deemed too expensive
 - Shingles hold snow better and provide insulation; easier to repair individual sections
- Survey underway but not yet completed
- New roof can be retrofitted for solar panels in the future
- Ideas floated: solar for symbolic leadership and potential heat pump for energy efficiency

Pickens/Badel motion to allocate \$30,000 in unrestricted funds for the roof replacement unanimously approved

Proposal for Contract Minister

- A small group (Julie Badel, Harriet King, Lora, and Elen) posted a quarter-time ministry position via the UUA Transitions Office.
- The intent is to replace ministerial time lost with Stacey's departure, particularly seeking a UU-identified voice to complement existing lay speakers.
- One regionally local candidate is currently in conversation with the team.
- The candidate cannot be further pursued unless funding is confirmed.
- The board seeks congregational approval to allocate \$30,000 from unrestricted funds to cover the cost of a quarter-time contract minister for one year.

- The proposed budget includes full benefits typical for UU ministers (health, life, disability insurance, etc.).
- Clarification was made that the hiring decision rests with the **board**, per the UUA Transitional Ministry Handbook.
- Suggestions for a non-binding congregational vote were discussed but not adopted.
- Some members expressed concern over limited congregational input in hiring.

Fink/Pickens motion to allocate \$30,000 from unrestricted funds to cover the cost of a quarter-time contract minister for one year if such becomes an option approved by majority vote

Committee Updates

Music Team (Sandra):

- Equipment upgrades complete for expanded future use.
- Thanks expressed to Julie Badelf or piano donation and to accompanist Cheri (currently away).
- Continued work toward adding sound system and speaker improvements.

Sunday Services Team (formerly Worship Committee):

- Announced new name.
- Leadership transitioning from Barry Fink to Lori Swanson and Jane Bodi as co-chairs.

Green Sanctuary Team (Craig & others):

- Craig provided updates from the Green Sanctuary team:
- Sunday IR programming is continuing.
- Native planting plans are in progress. The team may remove existing landscaping blocks as part of this effort.
- Volunteers are needed to assist with these outdoor projects.
- There was collaboration with KISMA to address invasive species, particularly spotted knapweed, to protect native plants.
- Appreciation was expressed for the extensive volunteer work that transformed the grounds prior to the building's reopening.

Additional Suggestions from the floor:

- Consider alternating the Land Acknowledgement with a UU Moment on Sundays.
- Request for more time for congregational conversation following services.

Closing

The meeting ended with appreciation for the contributions of members and encouragement to enjoy the sunshine.