

# FirstU Board Meeting Minutes – June 14, 2023

Main Goal: To approve and to plan  
Attending: Brent Nicolle, Rev. Eric Meter, Mary Ella Keblusek, Phil Nagy, Amy Berube, Guy Belleperche, Carmen Contreras, Michelle Jackson, Carl Sonnen  
Guests: Justine De Jaegher  
Regrets: None  
Timekeeper: Phil  
Process Monitor: Amy

Item
<p>1. Consent Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Approval of Agenda<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Defer Item 8, Review of Charitable Purposes</li></ul></li><li>b. Approval of Board Minutes</li><li>c. Acknowledge Exec Approval by email (Date 2023/06/11) of Ajashki's grant application for \$15K from Downie Wenjack/HBC Blanket Fund</li><li>d. Approval of \$10K "Paint it Up" funding agreement by Crime Prevention Ottawa for Ajashki (Board by email, 2023/05/29)</li></ul> <p><b>Moved</b> by Brent, Seconded by Carl, Unanimous</p>
<p>2. Minister's Report [Rev Eric]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Cancelled Sunday BBQ due to low volunteer effort</li><li>b. Current volunteers are overtaxed. E-UU just asks for money and volunteers. Some no longer read it</li><li>c. Looking for new Women's group director</li><li>d. Looking for replacement for 2 custodian positions and a lead</li></ul>
<p>3. (Q&amp;A on) President's Report [Brent]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. New young people are attending our services</li><li>b. Young adult's games night promotion seems exclusive to Unitarians</li></ul>
<p>4. Campus Planning Update [Brent]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Memo of Understanding (tabled from May)</li></ul> <p><b>BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board approve signing the latest provided Memo of Understanding with Theia Partners Inc.</b></p> <p>Our lawyer, Lisa and Terry have reviewed and agreed to this MOU. Governance committee weighed in on the MOU</p> <p><b>Moved</b> by Brent, Seconded by Carl, Unanimous</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>b. Discussion re Report from CPC and upcoming Project Milestones<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Milestones prepared by Rodney</li><li>ii. Brent is subscribed to Bay Ward bulletin, which will discuss our development plan. There will be a June 28 meeting with Jacquie Holtzman</li></ul></li></ul>

iii. Brian from UU house will liaise directly with CP

5. COVID Task Force Update [Amy]

a. Relaxing Mask Mandate

BE IT RESOLVED on recommendation from the COVID Task Force, that the "masks mandatory" policy be relaxed (replaced with "masks optional") for our larger church events, including Sunday services. A section of the Sanctuary may be designated by the Welcome team as "masks required".

**Moved** by Amy, Seconded by Guy, Unanimous

b. Is there any further need for COVID Task Force?

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board hereby disbands the COVID Task Force, and thanks its members for their past analysis and guidance during uncertain times. Future COVID matters are now a Board responsibility.

**Moved** by Brent, Seconded by Amy, Unanimous

**Action item:** Amy to post a notice about masks being optional in e-UU

6. Evaluating our Progress on 5-Year Plan [Brent + Justine]

To discuss. One of the topics for our Board Retreat June 24th will be evaluation of the Strategic 5-Year Plan.

How can we effectively and efficiently evaluate the 24 objectives in the plan? Will we need external help (before/after)?

a. We need to annually review our progress and focus and remind ourselves of our 5 year plan

b. 4 evaluation categories

i. Check-off items as clearly completed

ii. Quantitatively analyse data we do collect

iii. Some quantitative demographic data (i.e. race, gender identity, ability challenges) we might want is not collected. Determine what is valuable to collect

iv. Qualitative analyses via project teams/groups and as a congregation overall as appropriate. 5 star ratings or stoplight evaluation provided by the board, the teams, the congregation?

v. Should evaluation be done by Team members closest to the subject matter being evaluated

vi. Remember the spiritual, soul-nourishing part of this endeavour and cut ourselves slack, where we fail to complete something

Once completed, how shall we communicate this with the congregation?

a. Will communicate at our fall meeting and our AGM

7. Repudiating Doctrine of Discovery [Carmen]

To discuss. The CUC AGM included suggested actions for member congregations.

a. Consult with TRAG for educational purposes to provide information on Repudiating the Doctrine of Discovery already adopted by the CUC and create a formal statement that can be approved by our congregation

b. CUC website provides material and is providing workshops on this subject

c. **Action item:** Carmen to look into whether TRAG can provide education to the congregation so we can have an official vote at the Fall meeting.

8. Closing

- a. Next meeting: Aug 16, 2023; 7P-9P
- b. Board retreat: Brent's House, June 24, 2023; 10A-2P