



**Unitarian Universalists of Southern Delaware  
Board of Trustees Planning Meeting  
April 8, 2025**

In attendance: Paul Barnette, Donna Davis, Carol  
Huckabee, Beth Law, Linda Marsden, Jane Miller, Richard

Wheeler, Rev. Heather Rion Starr

Guests: Rich Applebaum, Eli Searce, Ellen Lytton, Kent Sprunger, Lori Rocheleau,  
MaryDiane Hausman, Ellen Loewy, Rand Lytton, Allan Cairncross

Check In and Chalice Lighting (Linda)

- I. Call to Order- Paul Barnette called the meeting to order at 10:09 am.
- II. Approve Agenda- A motion to approve the agenda was made by Jane Miller and seconded by Carol Huckabee. The vote was unanimous to approve.
- III. Items for Action:
  - a. Review/Approve March 26th Business Meeting Minutes- A motion to approve the minutes was made by Linda Marsden and seconded by Carol Huckabee. The vote was unanimous to approve.
  - b. Review/Approve Rev. Heather's Sabbatical Plans - Paul: October 2025 has been approved; the other two portions are proposed as May-July 2026 and Jan-Feb 2027. No further sabbatical will be taken until 2031. A motion to approve the final two segments of sabbatical was made by Beth Law and seconded by Donna Davis. The vote was unanimous to approve.
  - c. Membership Committee Name Change - Paul: The Membership Committee asked to change their name to the Membership Team. The practice has been that committees have budgets and teams do not, but this is not codified anywhere, so it is not an issue. The Board decided to call it Membership and Renee Rocheleau can market the group as Membership Team if she wishes.
- IV. Items for Discussion
  - a. ILYA Financial Process - Richard: Email from Ronnie Smith was read by Richard Wheeler. Richard made a motion that ILYA be allowed to collect funds for use by the ILYA team to support individuals aging out of foster care in Sussex County. Donna Davis seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Income will be deposited into, and expenses debited from, a restricted account.
  - b. CFE's Space Issue (Heather Hamilton's Letter to BOT) - Paul : Heather Hamilton's letter was received by the Board. The Facilities Task Force will address this issue in its update.

- c. Facilities Task Force Update and Next Steps - Lori Rocheleau: Pennoni contract - \$6-8K for their help with the additional building. The proposed cost of an additional building is in the \$250K range. Four different building types are being looked at: log cabin, modular, stick, yurt. The Board approved the FTF moving ahead with the Pennoni contract. Richard clarified the contract is T&M, meaning we only pay for the services used. The FTF will wait until the Finance Committee gives them an idea of the amount of money we have to spend on the additional building and then the FTF will come back to the Board with options.
  - d. Communications Committee Annual Meeting Timeline & Document List - MaryDiane Hausman: MaryDiane Hausman reviewed the schedule for the annual meeting timeline & document list. Rev. Heather presented S&EJ's revised Resolution of Conscience. Linda Marsden will contact S&EJ regarding adding more explicit information on health and safety protections for transgender people. We will look to approve a revised resolution at our April 30th meeting.
  - e. Pledge Campaign Update - Kent: Our pledge goal was \$410,400; we raised \$416,032, 101% of target (\$5,632 above target). 172 pledges from 243 people; 33 new pledges from 47 new people.
  - f. Property Management Committee Update - Paul: At the Property Management Committee meeting on Thursday, April 3rd, Lori Rocheleau was elected as the new PMC Committee Chair. The vote was unanimous.
- V. The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm.

Next Board Business Meeting: Wednesday, April 30th at 3:30 pm (In-Person/Hybrid).

Respectfully submitted-

Beth Law

BOT Secretary