

Minutes
Unitarian Universalist Church of the Shenandoah Valley, Inc.
Special Meeting
December 18, 2016

Location: UUCSV Church, Stephens City, VA

Presiding: Monica Singh-Smith, President of the Board of Directors

I The meeting was called to order at 12:45 PM by President Monica Singh-Smith.

Judy Sperka served as Secretary.

Cal Allen served as parliamentarian.

II Verification of Quorum

72 of 147, or 49%, of the voting members were present. Article V, Section 3a of the constitution requires a quorum of at least 40% of voting members to consider any amendments to the Constitution, and so a quorum was present.

III Group Reading: "Promises"

IV Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the June 12, 2016, Annual Meeting were approved with no objection.

V Action Agenda:

The chair moved the Re-Confirmation of the Settled Minister Search Committee business item to the first item of business rather than the last. There were no additional corrections to the minutes, and they were approved without objection.

A. Re-Confirmation of the members of the Settled Minister Search Committee

The Board of Directors moved that Cal Allen, Rachel Hanks, Robert Haskins, Claire Henderson, Lana Hurt, Gail Vasta, and Bruce White be approved as members of the Settled Minister Search Committee. Motion seconded by Jim Peters.

The motion passed on a voice vote.

B. Approval of the UUCSV revised mission statement

The Board of Directors moved that the Purpose statement in Article III of the Constitution be deleted and replaced by:

Mission and Covenant

The mission of the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Shenandoah Valley, Inc. is to build a community based on and committed to self-development, empathy, open communication and action.

Our Community is defined by how we interact with each other, both within the congregation and with the larger society.

Self-development is enabled by meeting the spiritual, intellectual, and social awareness needs of the congregation.

We practice empathy by placing ourselves in the position of both other members of the congregation and of the larger society.

We practice open communication by speaking openly and with respect, civility, and compassion.

Action means we play active roles both within the congregation and wider community in fulfilling our self-development and empathy values.

Seconded by Ron Cox.

There were two amendments from the floor:

Amendment I

Moved that the proposed Mission and Values statement be replaced with: We, the congregants of UUCSV, seek to live lives of service, to do justice, and to create peace. We honor the individual and give comfort to each other. We affirm that love is the spirit of this church and the quest for truth is its sacrament.

The motion was not seconded.

Amendment II

Moved that the word “compassion” be substituted for the word “empathy” in the proposed Mission and Covenant statements. The proposal would thus read:

Mission and Covenant

The mission of the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Shenandoah Valley, Inc. is to build a community based on and committed to self-development, compassion, open communication and action.

Our Community is defined by how we interact with each other, both within the congregation and with the larger society.

Self-development is enabled by meeting the spiritual, intellectual, and social awareness needs of the congregation.

We practice compassion by placing ourselves in the position of both other members of the congregation and of the larger society.

We practice open communication by speaking openly and with respect, civility, and compassion.

Action means we play active roles both within the congregation and wider community in fulfilling our self-development and compassion values.

Seconded by Dixie Wiles.

The motion passed on a voice vote.

The congregation returned to the main motion.

Vote on the motion conducted by a show of hands with Gina Rezabek and Evan Clark serving as counters.

The vote was 72 in favor. The motion obtained the 2/3 vote required and passed.

C. Approval of Amended UUCSV By-Laws

The Board of Directors moved the adoption of the revised By-Laws of the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Shenandoah Valley, Inc.

Seconded by Ed Jaffee.

There was one amendment from the floor.

Moved that the words “Committee Charters, Bylaws,” be inserted into Article VII Board of Directors, Section 6 Officers., Subsection F Secretary (2) (c).

The amended statement would read: Maintaining custody of the records, Committee Charters, Bylaws, including the Membership Book, of the Church;

Seconded by Sandra Henry-Stocker. The motion failed on a voice vote.

Robert Haskins moved that the rules be suspended and that no further amendments be permitted.

Seconded by Bruce White.

Vote on the motion conducted by a show of hands with Gina Rezabek and Evan Clark serving as counters.

The vote was 53 in favor. The motion obtained the 2/3 vote required and passed.

The congregation returned to the main motion. Vote on the motion conducted by a show of hands with Gina Rezabek and Evan Clark serving as counters.

The vote was 68 in favor. The motion obtained the 2/3 vote required and passed.

D. Approval of designation of Reverend Henry Ticknor as Minister Emeritus

The Board of Directors moved that the Reverend Henry Ticknor be designated Minister Emeritus of the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Shenandoah Valley.

Seconded by Jack Jackson.

There being no objection, the motion passed by unanimous consent.

VII Closing Remarks/ Adjournment

The meeting adjourned without objection at 1:50 PM.