

UUCA Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes DRAFT
March 31, 2019

Chalice Lighting

Interim Senior Minister Rev. Dr. Teresa Cooley lit the chalice.

Call to Order

UUCA Board of Trustees Chair Al Himes welcomed congregants and called the congregation together at 12:46 pm

Establishment of a Quorum, Certification of Membership, and Appointment of Parliamentarian

Al Himes established that a quorum was present and noted that 113 Absentee Ballots had been received. Under Article IV, Section 5 of the UUCA Bylaws, a quorum is the lesser of 8% of members, or 75 members.

Amy Shepherd, UUCA Secretary, certified the membership list and notice of the meeting. Al Himes appointed Amy as Parliamentarian for the meeting. Linda Battaglini, member of UUCA Board of Trustees, served as notetaker, with Amy to draft minutes from those notes subsequent to the meeting.

Purpose of the Meeting.

Board Chair Al Himes stated the purpose of the meeting, to vote on the adoption of the 8th Principle as worded, without amendment. Al asked Bill Fogarty to moderate the meeting. He noted Roberts Rules of Order and the UUCA Covenant would be the guide to the discussion of the adoption of the 8th Principle.

Rules of the Meeting and Election.

Bill reviewed the basic procedures of the meeting that are governed by Roberts Rules, noted the Rules of the Meeting as set forth on the Meeting Agenda, and noted that each speaker would have 90 seconds to speak during the discussion period.

UUCA Covenant Reading.

Attendees read the UUCA Covenant aloud.

Discussion of Adoption of 8th Principle

Bill Fogarty opened the floor to a motion to adopt the 8th Principle. Becky Ross made the motion, which was duly seconded. Bill opened the floor for comments, noting that there were two microphones set up in the aisles, one for the motion and one against. To ensure a balanced discussion, individuals would be recognized to speak in an alternating fashion.

Marietta Tanner spoke in support of the motion, noting the memory of her mother's suffering during the Jim Crow era.

Barbara Johnson spoke in support of the motion, stating she was happy that this motion was being put to vote, that she felt it was important UUCA take an anti-racism stance, and noted that adoption of the 8th Principle would just be the first step in a longer process.

Brenda King spoke in support of the motion, mentioning the definition of white supremacy, that whites continue to reap unearned benefits.

Karen Tripp spoke in support of the motion, stating that she wants to be part of a church that actively takes steps to be anti-racist.

Jacomina de Regt spoke in support of the motion, stating that this a rare event, a special congregational meeting on a social justice issue. She noted this will compliment UUCA's journey to wholeness, and the vote will require us to change the way we are.

Janice Morris spoke in support of the motion, noting she was a member of the Board of Trustees. She noted as a liberal community, we think we have arrived, but we have not, so actions like adopting the 8th Principle are important.

Ben d'Avenzo spoke in support of the motion, noting racist incidents that have occurred at UUA's General Assembly in the past. He urged the congregants to seriously consider our own history and what it means to be taking this action.

Sally Determan spoke in support of the motion, noting that as a member of the Ministerial Search Committee, it will be good to be able to report to candidates that UUCA has taken this action.

At multiple points throughout the discussion, Bill Fogarty paused to actively solicit discussion or comments for those against the motion. There were no such comments.

With no further comments, Art Stephens moved to vote on the motion. Stephanie Thomas seconded the motion.

Bill Fogarty read the motion and called the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Ministerial Assistant Walter Clark closed the meeting with comments that this is the beginning, and now the work to live the 8th Principle begins. Bill Fogarty adjourned the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT