# First Unitarian Board Meeting Minutes - May 2026

**Date:** May 16, 2026
**Time:** 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
**Location:** Social Hall, Fishbowl (Hybrid Meeting)

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## Attendees

**Board Members:**

- EmmaLia Mariner (President)
- Bill Miller (Vice President)
- Michael McDonald (Treasurer)
- Raymond Wolfgang (Secretary)
- Donna Collins
- Andrea Lee
- Elaine Edmonds
- Gale Borkenhagen

**Guests:** Amy Brown

**Absent:** Bill Miller (Vice President), Gale Borkenhagen

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## OPENING (10 minutes)

Meeting called to order with chalice lighting.

### Chalice Lighting

### Covenant Reading

**Board Covenant**
First Unitarian Board Covenant
Draft 2, 5/12/26

(NOT included in the public minutes until board-approved.)

**Centering mission**
We will keep the congregation' mission at the center of our work, remembering that our efforts serve wider purposes.

**Shared responsibility**
The work of the board is shared by all. We commit to trying new approaches, asking for help, and offering help to get the work done.

**Open communication**
We commit to open communication among board members and with the congregation, while honoring confidentiality as needed to protect vulnerable people and situations.

**Equality of perspective**
All voices are equal and each person's perspective is valuable, regardless of their role in the congregation (member, staff, minister, board).

**Full participation and shared leadership**
We will share responsibility for engaging each other in healthy discussion during board meetings.

**Mindful listening**
We commit to making space in our discussions for diverse viewpoints and for sharing feelings as well as opinions and facts.

**Timely action**
We will communicate meeting agendas, minutes, board duties, and other items and expectations in a timely manner to ensure full participation and adequate preparation. Issues related to the health of the First Unitarian community are our top priority.

**Acceptance of shortcomings**
We value each person's unique contributions. Yet we will inevitably let each other down. When that occurs, we will give each other space, grace, and constructive feedback.

**Broken relationships**
Our decisions will at times result in strained or severed relationships. We commit to seek reconciliation when possible. When that is not possible, we will acknowledge these losses together and address the pain.

**Joy and care**

We commit to individual and communal self-care to keep ourselves and our board healthy. We will make space for joy in our shared work.

# BOARD BUSINESS (30 minutes)

## Discussion Items

1. Children's RE Council
    - LSC role in vetting & nominating specific candidates.
    - Members are appointed by the LSC from a list provided by the Council or the Board. (from Bylaws, Article 3 Sec. 2b.)
    - There is not a set number of people for the Council; could be any amount.
    - The 3 approved by the board (April) will be passed to LSC for their approval.
2. Social Justice Chair. Formed through the LSC. Asking for help from the LSC in recruiting new membership/leadership.
3. Special Congregational Meeting Scheduled. Three topics:
        - Bylaw changes: Membership,
        - Social Justice Motion
        - Approval of Search Committee Nominees
    - Sunday, May 31, 2026 at 12:30 pm in the Sanctuary

## Action Items

1. GA Delegates
    - Nominees: Alana Rodriguez, Raymond Wolfgang
        - Motion: Elaine
        - Second: Andrea
        - Vote: All in favor
2. Healthy Community Committee: Andrea Lee is new member of the Healthy Community Committee. (Bill Miller stepped down; Gale Borkenhagen is the other HCC member on the Board).
    - Motion: Bill
    - Second: Raymond
    - Vote: All in favor
3. Approve Scott Kasmire as the Chair of the Healthy Community Committee.
    - Motion: Michael
    - Second: Elaine
    - Vote: All in favor
4. Select possible dates for Rev. Beth Exit Interview. (Before end of June.)

# APPROVAL & REPORTS (30 minutes)

## 1. Minutes Approval

- **Previous Meeting:** April Board Meeting Minutes
    - **Motion:** Elaine
    - **Second:** Donna
    - **Vote:** All in favor

## 2. Staff Reports

Discussion, for June meeting: considering Board-led town halls, on 5th Sundays of month.

## 3. Financial Report

- Bryan is looking for a tech support hire, but this person will not do the volunteer coordination. Ian is being considered for this, once his bandwidth opens up. Ian is the new office staff hire, as admin support.

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# COMMITTEE & TASK FORCE UPDATES (40 minutes)

## Board Committees and Reports

- Finance
- Healthy Community
- Landscape
- Membership
- Personnel
- Radical Generosity
- Buildings & Grounds

## Active Task Forces and Reports

- Transitions Team
    - **Governance and Ministry** by Hotchkiss - Third Edition. Chosen as Common Read for all those involved in the ministerial transition (included Board, Transition Team, Interim Ministry Team, others as their interest dictate). Donna has a few extra books; 3rd edition is the one to read, earlier ones are quite different.
    - Interim Ministry Committee/Team update

# CLOSING (10 minutes)

## Board Member Updates

*Opportunities for interaction with church community.*

MOSAIC trainings- information has been sent over email.

- Raymond attended first session, May 2.
- Next step, to form a Mosaic Congregational team, to continue work and take the next sessions.
- Historical model is 8 Sessions, 90 minutes each. Start date TBD, more to follow.
- Long term goal, deliver training and awareness to the congregation, track progress.
- Info in email, questions to Raymond.

## Recognitions

## Closing Chalice Words and Adjournment

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