

**RED RIVER UU CHURCH
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 19, 2025**

1. The meeting was called to order at 12:50 pm. Board members present were Jana Norris, Carole Harner, Amy Hoffman-Shehan, David Dyer, ex-officio member Marilyn Alexander. Also present were Jim Holmes and Doug Strong.
2. Carole moved to accept the minutes of the December Board meeting as presented. Amy seconded the motion. All voted in favor.
3. Carole presented the Financial Report for December. We still have \$3900 in the renovation fund, which is already earmarked for the back porch cover that is in the permitting process with the City of Denison. Carole expects us to have a net loss for the year, due to lost pledges from members who have died. She also reported that the new Share the Plate program initiated by the Worship Team has received excellent response from the congregation.
4. Carole moved to appoint Shanna (Jack) Bolerjack to the Nominating Committee, as nominated by the current members.
5. Billie Barber's resignation as Secretary was recognized by the Board. Marilyn announced that the Nominating Committee has a slate of 5 possible candidates they are considering for nomination.
6. The Church's Certification with the UUA is in process. Carole has completed the financial section of the form, but there are several other sections that need to be completed by others by February 5. Marilyn said that she is working on the other sections.
7. Renewal of Church's App (\$333.00 due on February 2). This is included in the budget and does not require any board action. Jana brought up the concern about Doug being the contact person for the app and iContact as his memory becomes worse. The topic of making sure someone else has access was addressed. Jim has access to iContact, but he reported that he occasionally has to ask Doug for updated passwords. There was no resolution to the issue.
8. The Annual Appreciation Banquet is scheduled for February 23. Since the church expects a deficit by the end of the year, the board decided to make it a potluck event. Jim outlined the format that has been used in recent years. The previous recipients of the Bruce Cameron Award Distinguished Service Award will be polled for a nomination for this year's award. Jim will ask Bruce Cameron where the previous awards were made, as Carolyn had ordered them in past years.
9. Status of EIN from the IRS: Amy explained to Doug the reason for this on the topic, and he stated he was unaware that we did not have our own non-profit status. He said he

had never heard of other UU churches using the UUA's status. Jana reported that the IRS is making her prove that the church exists at the physical address, since we do not receive mail at the building. Carole has provided Jana with copies of the utility bills that show the physical address and billing address.

Jana discovered while working on the IRS non-profit status that we should be reporting to the Secretary of State of Texas, so she is working on getting us updated. She also discovered that we do not have a registered agent who is alive and competent to ask. She has made arrangements to hire a registered agent. Jana will complete the application and then request payment from Carole.

10. The upcoming Stewardship Campaign was discussed. Jana and Marilyn will attend a stewardship class offered by NTUUC (North Texas Unitarian Universalist Communities). The topic needs to be revisited during the February board meeting as well as mentioned in the February newsletter.
11. Jana announced weekly readings from Side with Love that can be added to the newsletter.
12. Jana referred to there being a mention of having a marketing discussion with Merrilee Kick and asked Marilyn if she had had that discussion. Marilyn said she would do so.
13. NTUUC is offering a Class on Elevator Speeches about Unitarian Universalism. No one from our congregation was able to attend the in person class. There will be online classes on April 2, 9 and 16. Amy suggested tuning in at church and inviting the congregation so we can practice our elevator speeches on each other.
14. Jana announced the following Training Opportunities from the Southern Region of the UUA (Unitarian Universalist Association) and Costs. Some of the workshops are in the planning process, and dates have not been announced.
 - a. Stewardship Workshop \$25
 - b. Primer Leadership Experience \$35
 - c. Essentials Leadership \$90
 - d. Breakthrough Leadership Experience \$TBA
 - e. UUA Board Foundations 105 \$15
15. Reorganizing the list of Committees is tabled until February. Jana said she hadn't received the various lists in order to consolidate and reorganize them. Amy reminded her that she had been sent the lists and was working on it. Amy will provide a proposal before the February agenda is published.
16. Jana announced an online Martin Luther King Jr Day event, MLK Day: Interfaith Service and Moral Mass: For a Time Such as This (presented by Disciples of Christ)
<https://web.cvent.com/event/b3da3cc3-a325-4a0e-bf74-39889bf8cb3b/summary>
Amy announced the annual event at Austin College.
17. Other Business:\

Marilyn brought up the joint celebration March 2 to observe the 125 year anniversary of First Unitarian Church of Dallas, anniversaries of several north Texas UU churches and NTUUC's anniversary. It will be at 3:00 pm at Horizon UU Church in Carrollton. Dr Hafner will be the speaker. She advised that we should plan to attend and carpool from our church. Attendees are asked to register on ntuuc.org/anniversary.

Jim brought up the need to improve the booth for festivals before the Earth Day Festival. We need new banners and signs. He would like to focus on different topics depending upon the event we are participating (pollinators & plants for Earth Day, Welcoming Congregation for Pride, etc.) Carole reported that we had spent \$600 of the \$1600 advertising budget. There are some other commitments, but we should be able to upgrade the booth signs and banners. Jim and Doug will work on designs.

18. Board Reps:

January – Carole

February – Carole

March – Amy

April – Jana

May – David

June – new Secretary

19. The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Hoffman-Shehan
Acting Secretary