

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church of Watertown, NY
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Saturday, September 27, 2025

Board Members Present Via Zoom: Robert South, President; Eleanor Allen, Treasurer; Janine LaClair, Secretary; Erica Gardner, Trustee; Rob Blankemeier, Trustee; Rev. Cindy Terlazzo; Pat Sutherland, Trustee (joined meeting at 9:44)

Board Members Excused: Harriet McMillan, Vice President; Mimi Litsche, Trustee

Board covenant was read and a member check-in was completed.

In the presence of a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m.

Acceptance of Agenda: completed by consensus

Acceptance of Minutes: Eleanor moved, Rob B. seconded to accept the minutes of the August 23, 2025 meeting. Motion passed.

Officers' Reports

- **President's Report:** Robert reported on schedule for Congregational Conversations, which are dates Rev. Terlazzo can attend: October=R.E., November=Church Covenant, December=Fundraising, January=Bylaws
- **Treasurer's and Financial Committee Report:** Eleanor clarified water bill was accidentally listed as trash removal last month and the entry has been corrected. The report was filed for audit.
- **Secretary's Report:** None

Committee Reports

- **Finance:** see above Treasurer's Report
- **Membership and Activities/Fundraising:** Robert reported the church will have a road cleanup, indoor cleaning day, and Underground Railroad presentation on the weekend of October 11 & 12. He anticipated Panera Bread fundraising nights will start in October. Robert reported on tentative plans for a fundraising sale the last weekend of March, with profits going to the building fund. **Robert** will coordinate with Sarah O'Connell (as she was planning a parking lot rummage sale) to clarify plans and report back to the board. The committee requested a change to the Building Use Policy to streamline the process for private use of the building. Robert moved (and later dropped the motion) that in the first sentence of the section on building use by members we insert "for private events" and in the second paragraph insert "other than above exceptions". Discussion followed and it was determined additional clarification on the proposed change is required. **The request was sent back to the committee** for a more complete revision and can be presented to the board at a later date.
- **Religious Exploration:** no report, waiting for results of upcoming brainstorming session.
- **Worship:** Eleanor reported committee is meeting regularly and upcoming services are scheduled.

Task Forces

- **Housekeeping:** Robert states the floor is peeling in the men's bathroom in a large sheet, he suggests vinyl flooring. Pat & Eleanor suggested a discussion with the contractor who installed the flooring and see what kind of remediation is possible, and if it is too costly, we can consider vinyl. **Robert** will contact Diego at Absolute Remediation and Construction.
- **Groundskeeping:** Robert is planning to mow once more and then put the mower in the shop for annual maintenance.
- **Ministerial Relations:** **Rev. Terlazzo** will send her September minister's report to board members. She will activate a ministerial relations team in November to work with her during her ministerial renewal period and consider how her overall ministry with All Souls is going. She mentioned coordinating with a UUA representative and having a New Ministry Start-up Program for 3-4 hours on a Saturday or Sunday. Rev. Cindy requests the Board come up with 2-3 possible dates in the spring. Robert requests **board members** consider this and present a motion with dates at the next meeting. Rev. Cindy also suggests we work on a wish list for physical plant and programming desires so we can ask for grants. She is aware of some opportunities and would provide her knowledge.
- **Office:** None

Orders of the Day:

- **New Policy Discussion: Definition of a Task Force,** Robert requests **board members** review the previously distributed proposal and be prepared to discuss this at the next meeting.

New Business:

- **Barbeque Pit disposal:** Depending on the condition, it is a possible item for sale at the proposed spring fundraiser. If it is determined unsaleable, the Board approves of the disposal.

NOTE the change in day and time: The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 29th, at 4:00 p.m. by Zoom.

Regular meetings will continue to be by Zoom, on the 4th Saturday of the month, at 9:30 a.m., with in-person meetings, at 9:30 a.m, at the church, the 4th Saturdays of April & August.

Adjournment was at 10:38 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janine LaClair
Board Secretary