

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA (FUCV)

FUCV 2025 Members Budget Meeting to be held in the Sanctuary

MINUTES

1. Call to Order, Welcome, Territorial Acknowledgement Jim Willis

Meeting called to order at 12:33pm. Welcome remarks and territorial acknowledgement given by Jim Willis.
2. Appointment of John Worton as Parliamentarian Jim Willis

John Worton was appointed as parliamentarian.
3. Voting Instructions and Confirmation of Quorum (40) Jan Thompson

Quorum of 40 was met, 105 members present, 52 proxies.
4. Invocation and Chalice Lighting Rev. Melora Lynngood

Rev. Melora provided the invocation and chalice lighting.
5. **Motion:** Approval of agenda Jim Willis

Karen Furness moved to approve the agenda for the meeting, Jeri Dause seconded. **Carried**
6. **Motion:** Approval of Minutes of the May 26, 2024, AGM Jim Willis

Roberta Clair moved to approve the minutes from the May 26, 2024 Annual General Meeting, Johnathan Savard seconded. **Carried.**
7. **Motion:** Appointment of a two-person committee to review the minutes of the Annual Budget Meeting within two weeks Jim Willis

Katherine Maas and Matt Britton volunteered to review the minutes from this budget meeting. Fran Hancock moved to appoint Katherine Maas and Matt Britton to review the minutes from the annual budget meeting, Kathleen Zimmerman seconded. **Carried.**
8. **Motion:** Vote on proposed name change Aeryn Bannister
Dar Levy
David Tietz
Gita John-Iyam
Victoria Barr
Vote on whether congregation wishes to change its name from First Unitarian Church of Victoria to **Unitarian Universalist Community of Victoria**

The name team presented the new name being proposed as the Unitarian

Universalist Community of Victoria. The name had approximately 90 percent approval from the survey conducted earlier which had 220 participants.

On behalf of the name team, Dar Levy moved that the First Unitarian Church of Victoria changes its name to the Unitarian Universalist Community of Victoria. Seconded by Aeryn Bannister.

Kathleen Zimmerman raised questions regarding how a name change will be implemented. Rev. Melora, John Worton, and Adriane Matheson Smith all provided feedback. Initial steps will be to contact the BC registry office for approval. A committee will need to be formed to implement the necessary changes and the board will be discussing this during the next board meeting.

Jim Willis called the vote on the motion.

In favour: 152

Opposed: 5

Abstain:

Motion carried with over 75% of the voters in favour.

Jim Willis thanked the name team for all of their hard work.

9. Receive the report on the 2024 year-end finances

Bruce Nicol

Bruce Nicol presented the report on the 2024-year end finances. Income was higher than budgeted and expenses were lower than budgeted. Overall, there was an improvement of approximately \$70,000 from what was expected at the start of 2024. 2024 had an overall deficit of approximately \$13,000.

10. Receive the report on the 2024 endowment fund

Bruce Nicol

Bruce Nicol presented the proposed amendment to the endowment policy. The policy was initially written with the goal that it contains the equivalent of one year's operating budget. The Endowment fund has surpassed this target so the suggested policy amendment allows the endowment fund to be drawn down by a maximum of 3 percent per year, provided it retains at least one year's worth of operating funds.

11. **Motion:** Approval of amendment to Endowment Policy (Section 5.13 of the Policy Manual)

Bruce Nicol

David Hoadley moved to amend the Endowment Policy manual as described, Kathleen Zimmerman seconded.

Janine Gliener proposed a friendly amendment to the wording of the policy, asking for the word 'minimum' be added to 5.13.2. This

amendment was seconded by Johnathan Savard; both the original mover David Hoadley and original seconder Kathleen Zimmerman supported the suggested change.

Amended endowment fund policy:

5.13 Endowment Fund

5.13.1 The endowment Fund has been established by the congregation to provide long-term fiscal viability and stability to the Church. All bequests and gifts to the Endowment Fund are to be invested and managed as a perpetual financial pillar of the church.

5.13.2 The minimum funding level for the Endowment Fund shall be the equivalent of the annual operating budget of the church.

5.13.3 The Board of Trustees is authorized to draw up to 3% of the value of the Endowment Fund at the close of the previous fiscal year from the Fund to apply to general operating expenses each year as long as doing so does not cause the balance of the Fund to fall below the threshold established in section 5.13.2.

5.13.4 Any extraordinary withdrawals (i.e., beyond those authorized under section 5.13.3) from the Endowment Fund must be approved by the membership at an Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting of the congregation.

The membership voted on the policy as amended. **Motion was carried.**

12. Presentation of the proposed 2025 budget

David Hoadley

David Hoadley presented the proposed budget for 2025.

Highlights:

- Revenue from contributions approximately equals salary expenses.
- Income from rent approximately equals to property expenses.
- Before the draw of the endowment fund there is a projected deficit of approximately \$14,000. This is below the 3% that can be drawn down from the endowment fund.
- Property expenses were decreased from initial budget plan. This decrease is a deferral of some property expenses that can be done in a future year and are not safety concerns.
- Pledges are up for 2025 by approximately \$12,0000.

Rev. Shana discussed the 5-year financial strategic planning team. They will be working from now until May to bring forward a 'dynamic projection' considering what our projected budgets will look like if we prioritize some types of spending over others over the next five years.

Questions and comments from membership:

- Nancy Dobbs commented that pledges are \$16,000 higher this year due to some additional one-time donations.

- Kristina Stevens commented that when we talk about donations, we do not include donations to specific funds and donations to the endowment fund.
- Kathleen Zimmerman first wanted to clarify if the insurance expense was only the property insurance, or if it included all insurance the community has. David Hoadley clarified it covered all insurance so some of the insurance cost under property is not for the property specifically.
- Kathleen Zimmerman also asked about the income line items of waste management and snow removal and why they were at zero. David Hoadley stated the snow removal was due to there not being any snow, John Worton provided additional clarification regarding the waste management stating that there will be some income paid back for it from the Montessori school.
- Matt Britton asked about the decrease in spending for the SEL programs, specifically that it was decreased by approximately \$15,000. Rev. Shana explained that the position and hours shifted after Anna's departure. This change was done by the HR committee and not the board.

13. **Motion:** Approval of proposed 2025 budget

David Hoadley

David Hoadley moved to approve the 2025 budget as presented. Pat Conroy seconded.

Jim Willis called the vote, 2 opposed. **Carried.**

14. Questions from the membership?

Jim Willis

Janine Gliener brought up that the process for the name change and mission statement was very well done and wanted to acknowledge the great work done.

15. Closing words and extinguish the chalice

Rev. Lynngood

Rev. Shana provided the closing words and extinguishing of the chalice.

16. Adjournment

Jim Willis

Meeting adjourned at 2:02pm.