



Minutes: June 2025 Board Meeting

Adams Hall

Wednesday, 6/18/25 @ 6:30 PM

Board members present: Carole Glauser (2025), Sue Bell (2025), Rebecca Taylor (2026), Bob Becker (2026), Jennifer Stauber (2027), Matthew Hull (2027), Kathy Bruns (2027), Lead Minister Rev. Krista Taves

Not Present: David Cox

Guests: Brian Franklin (Director of Business Administration), Ann Lemon, Steve Jarrett, Argonne Discernment Team representatives: Jeff Zove, Terry Jones, Elisa Voss

6:30 ■ Gather

- Chalice lighting & Opening Reading—**Rebecca**
- Highlighting Eliot's Covenant—We will live these principles by promising:

To talk over differences in opinion with each other directly, openly and respectfully.

- Welcome Board and Visitors and Introductory comments

■ Check-ins of highs and lows (15 min)

■ Visitor Comments (2 minutes per visitor)

■ Meeting Preparation

- Finalize agenda
- Transparency Ombudsperson's Report—**Bob**
- Confirm meeting assignments:
Timekeeper and Process & Transparency Observer—**Sue**

■ Consent Agenda

- Approve May 2025 Meeting Minutes
- Affirmation of **4 New Eliot members** (Bylaws, Article III, Part A): **Andrea Barnes, Steven Barnes, Tom Phelps, and Laura Tyrey.**

7:00 New Business

- [222 Discernment Team Report](#) (15 min)

5 focus groups

Foci: How well are the facilities, etc., meeting Eliot's mission? 2)How well meeting RE needs, sanctuary needs, outdoor use, parking needs, etc.

Recommendations: retain 222 and fold its existence into the life of the church;

2)enhance accessibility in Eliot!!!--now a problem with inclusivity

Recommendations: 1) Retain 222 and fold its existence into the life of the church; 3) A broader operational plan to enhance accessibility; 4) Wish for gathering space, esp, for older children;

Take sell option off the table; take "222" label out of lexicon; shift inside enhancements to operations side—grounds team, etc.

Bob: What about shuttling?

Brian: Will soon re-design two of the rooms in the basement to make them more appealing

Carole: RE wing past its expiration date.

Brian: Cracks in walls of music room. Inspection did not flag structural problem

Jennifer: Goal of accessibility throughout Eliot

Steve: What about expanding the back parking lot? Bids: 55-65,000. Flow is an issue, though lot across the railroad tracks is a start.

Krista: Research shows that parking is a big draw and bad parking will keep people from returning.

Transfer of Signing Checks—Sue and Carole moving off; Matthew and Ann coming on

- Acknowledge Banking Signatories (1 min)

For Commerce Bank:

Resolution #1:

The following named persons are officers, members, or staff of Eliot Unitarian Universalist Chapel authorized by this Resolution to transact business on behalf of Eliot Unitarian Universalist Chapel:

Jennifer Stauber, Board Chair

Matthew Hull, Board Chair-Elect

Ann Lemon, Board Treasurer

Brian Franklin, Director of Business Administration

Effective July 1, 2025, Resolution supersedes all previous Resolutions authorized by the Board of Eliot Unitarian Universalist Chapel. This resolution further removes Carole Glauser, former Board Chair, and Sue Bell, former Board Treasurer, as signers, and adds Matthew Hull, Board Chair-Elect, and Ann Lemon, Board Treasurer, as new signatories.

For Commerce Brokerage:

Resolution #2:

The following named persons are officers, members, or staff of Eliot Unitarian Universalist Chapel authorized by this Resolution to transact business on behalf of Eliot Unitarian Universalist Chapel:

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Sue and Jennifer made, seconded motion re: transfer of signing privileges; approved unanimously

7:15 Treasurer's Report (10 min) **Sue**

- Review of Minister's Discretionary Fund

April surplus about \$7,000

About \$79,000 surplus overall

Attendance is taken by greeters during the offering

Also starting to count attendance in Adam's Hall

Transferring surplus to maintenance, notably live stream system

\$7-8,000 increase in insurance re-write of policy

Some misc. Rental income; yoga classes also coming up

Discretionary fund: \$9,000 from endowment fund—now \$98,000

Review of ministerial discretionary fund: all looked in line—deposits and disbursements

7:25 Lead Minister's Report (10 min) **Krista**

Simple report because we are in slow summer mode

Now working on next year's issues—going for autonomy for team, who are nevertheless still accountable to Rev Krista

Music and adult education very strong

Wants to put a lot of emphasis family team.

Debby will have more resp for Sunday service

Em will be having more respo

Liturgist team will be shifting to Worship Assoc team (will work in partnership with Rev. K but will take on more responsibility)

7:35 **Body Break** (10 min)

7:45 **Unfinished Business** (25 min)

- Mission-Based Governance BOT Policy Book, discussion of any outstanding issues and adoption of new policies (10 min) **Governance Committee (Matthew, Krista, Carole)**

Final version of policy book ready—based on Hodgkiss collaborative model

Jennifer: How does the Board monitor the elements of this policy book? How can we show that we have done it if someone asks?

Sue and Jennifer: adopt new policy by July 1, 2025—unanimously approved

- Minister Eval update (5-10 min) **Kathy/Bob**

Minister Evaluation Committee: Kathy Brunts and Bob Becker. 15 parishioners' comments will be compiled and shown to Rev. Krista. Rev. Krista will do a self-evaluation and then discuss it with the team

- Update Re: Minister Emerita (1 min) **Carole**

Carole on verge of sending formal letter of congratulation to Rev. Barbara

- Update Re: Name Change from EUC to EUUC (1 min) **Brian**

Brian sorted out the legalities: DBA.

- Rolling Road Map, anything still pending? (2 min) **Jennifer/Matthew**

Jennifer: The report has, for the most part, been handed off to Matthew, Chair Elect for 2025-26, who will lead the RR team next year.

Rev. Krista thanked Jennifer for her hard work and leadership.

8:10 Thoughtful Question (10 min) **Matthew**

In general in your life, what lessons have you learned from experiences of grief, loss, or hardship.

8:20 ■ Meeting Summary (5 min)

- Process & Transparency Report: **Sue**
- Decisions/Actions Taken/Follow Up: **Rebecca**

Determine key points for board briefing

Board Bits, June 2025

–The new Board members, Steve Jarrett and Ann Lemon, attended the meeting. Welcome Steve and Ann!

–Eliot has four new members (Bylaws, Article III, Part A): Andrea Barnes, Steven Barnes, Tom Phelps, and Laura Tyrey. Welcome all!

–The Discernment Team made these recommendations: 1) Retain the property hitherto known as 222 Argonne and fold that parcel of land, under a different label, into the life of the church; 2) Enhance accessibility inside and outside of Eliot!!!--this is an issue of inclusivity; 3) Organize a broader operational plan to continue assessing and enhancing accessibility; 4) Establish a gathering space, especially for older children; 5) Put greeters in place outside the building as well as inside. [222 Argonne Team Report June 2025.docx](#)

–Rev. Krista's Ministerial Report: Music and Adult Education teams are very strong.

–Rev. Krista wishes to build Eliot's emphasis on family ministries.

–Eliot is still anticipating a surplus at the end of the fiscal year–June 30, 2025.

–The Ministerial Discretionary Fund is in compliance with requirements for the fund.

–The final version of the new policy book is ready; it is based on the Hotchkiss collaborative model and reflects our shift to a mission-based governance model. The Board unanimously approved adoption of the new policy book and its implementation by July 1, 2025. Stay tuned for more details and the link to view the new policies.

--The Ministerial Evaluation Committee has completed collecting 2024-2025 feedback from evaluators chosen at the beginning of the church year. The committee is now compiling the data to share with the minister and request the minister's self-evaluation. The final step will be to present a summary to the Board at an upcoming meeting; thereafter, the minister and the Board will collaboratively

establish new goals for the next 3 years. After those 3 years, the evaluation cycle will begin again.

–The Rolling Roadmap process has, for the most part, been handed off to Matthew Hull, Chair Elect for 2025-26, who will lead the RR team next year.

–Important question from Matthew: In general in your life, what lessons have you learned from experiences of grief, loss, or hardship?

- Check Out—one takeaway, one gratitude

8:30 Chalice extinguish, Adjourn

★After Meeting—stay a few minutes to share a toast to the end of a successful year and to the beginning of a fruitful new one!

Upcoming Dates of Importance

June 18-22 UUA GA

June 21 Onboarding

June 24-26 Bldg closed for floor waxing

June 29 Eliot Celebrates Pride—Sunday Service/STL Pride Parade

July 4-5 July 4th Weekend at Bergfried

July 16 Next Board Meeting

? Summer Retreat