



USCL Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

August 24, 2025

Zoom Link: 177-417-886 Passcode: 601744

PLEASE MUTE CELL PHONES

Board Members: Jeff Benoit – Yes, Jane Cloos – Yes, Tom Cody – Absent, Janet Cortright – Absent, Jill Denning – Yes, Sharon Ketchum (non-voting) – Yes, Donnette Pinkerton – Yes, Chrissie Shearer – Yes

Leadership Team: Jerry Podany - No (Facility Grounds Team), Jeff Benoit – Yes (Admin Team), Nanette Podany - No & Chris McEnhill - No (Hospitality), Sue Winkelstern - No (Design), Jeff English - No (Celebration), *Hiatus* (Education), Maggie Bishop – No, Lisa Haston- No (OSAT), Kathy Assiff– No (Diversity & Inclusion), Greg Denning – No (Tech Team), Danielle McMahon – No (Ombudsman)

Call to Order: 12:07 pm

Chrissie Shearer

Opening Prayer

Rev. Sharon Ketchum

Mission Statement

Chrissie Shearer

Our Vision: A world powerfully transformed through the shared spiritual awakening of all humanity.

Our Mission Advancing the Unity movement that calls us to awaken to our oneness with God, each other, and all creation.

Introductions (Check-ins)

Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Donnette Pinkerton to approve the agenda.

Second by Jane Cloos

Yes Votes: Chrissie, Jill, Jeff

Approval of Minutes Dated July 7, 2025

Motion by Chrissie Shearer to approve the minutes as written.

Second by Donnette Pinkerton

Yes Votes: Jill, Jeff, Jane

Consent Agenda

I.	Outreach Social Team	No Report, No Action	Maggie Bishop & Lisa Haston
II.	Education Team	<i>Hiatus</i>	<i>Hiatus</i>
III.	Celebration Team	Report, Action	Jeff English
IV.	Hospitality Team	Report, No Action	Nan Podany & Chris McEnhill
V.	Administration Team	No Report, No Action	Jeff Benoit
VI.	Facility Grounds Team	Report, Action	Jerry Podany
VII.	Design Team	No Report, No Action	Sue Winkelstern
VIII.	Youth and Family Team		<i>Currently Inactive</i>
IX.	Nominating Team	n/a	Work Complete
X.	Inclusion/Diversity Team	No Report, No Action	Kathy Assiff
XI.	Tech Team	No Report, No Action	Greg Dening
XII.	Ombudsman	No Report, No Action	Danielle McMahon

Celebration Team – PosiFest Conference

Motion by Jane Cloos to approve Jeff English to attend the PosiFest Conference, September 22-26, 2025, in the amount of \$,1,301.26.

Second by Jill Dening

Yes Votes: Chrissie, Donnette, Jeff

Facility Team – Zero-Turn Lawnmower Purchase

Motion by Donnette Pinkerton to approve the purchase of a new zero-turn riding lawnmower in the amount of \$4,619.00 using money earmarked for this purpose in the facility team budget.

Second by Jeff Benoit

Yes Votes: Chrissie, Jane, Jill

New Business - Board Only Items

Minister's Report

Rev. Sharon Ketchum

- a. **Unity Worldwide Ministries Great Lakes Region Conference** – The Unity Worldwide Ministries Great Lakes Region Conference is September 22-24 (Mon-Wed), and we have free registration for one other person. The board is recommending Rev. Sharon ask LuAnne Champion if she is interested in attending the conference.
- b. **UWM Member's Meeting** – Rev. Sharon explained that besides the minister, we can have 4 delegates attend the UWM Member's Meeting (virtual) and the names need to be sent to

UWM by October 16th. USCL's delegates are Rev. Sharon Ketchum, Jeff Benoit, Jane Cloos, Jill Denning, and Donnette Pinkerton.

- c. **Attendance** – Ongoing discussion of in person and on-line Sunday service attendance took place and it was noted that there were 56 people in attendance today.

Treasurer's Report

Jane Cloos

- a. Review of monthly financial report with discussion.
- b. July's NOI is (\$580); YTD is \$3,403. YTD NOI is \$6,862 better than last year, and \$7,969 better than budget.
- c. September's renewal for insurance is increasing 26% from \$9,787 to \$12,339 annually, which is an annual increase of \$2,552.
- d. Gas & Electric utilities have also increased from \$865 to \$1,015 a month, which is an annual increase of \$1,800.
- e. An analysis of 2025 tithes shows a decrease of \$1,250 in regular monthly donations, or \$15,000 annually, vs 2024 consistent tithes. These decreases are due to moves, deaths, departures, & life situations. However, there are numerous new attendee tithes and existing member increased tithes helping to offset those decreases.

Motion by Jane Cloos to pay for the Great Hall window purchase in the amount of \$2,145 using Founder's Fund surplus instead of savings.

Second by Jill Denning

Yes Votes: Chrissie, Donnette, Jeff

Old Business

Other Business

- **July 9th E-Vote:** Approve Hospitality Team to purchase a new stove for the kitchen for \$649 financed by the monies in the dedicated kitchen fund account.

Motion by Jeff. Yes votes: Chrissie, Jane, Jill, Donnette, Janet. Waiting for response from Tom.

- **August 5th E-Vote:** Motion to purchase 6 windows from the Lodge from Window World for \$7,930.

Motion by Chrissie, second by Jeff. Yes, votes from Tom, Donnette, Janet, Jill, Jane.

Note: The facilities team recommends we order the triple pane windows for additional insulation. This is an additional \$780 which is still under our budget of \$10,000 for the windows, so final total is \$8,710.

Announcements

- *Unity Worldwide Ministries Great Lakes Region Conference – September 22-24, 2025*
- *USCL Board of Trustees Meeting – September 28, 2025*
- *Mission/Vision/Core/Values Workshop – October 25, 2025*
- *Bi-Annual USCL Board of Trustees & Leadership Council - October 26, 2025*

Meeting Adjourned at 1:27 pm

Respectfully submitted by Jill Dening, Secretary

