

## Meeting Minutes

NWUU Board of Trustees

June 18, 2025

Trustees in attendance: T. Dale Bagwell, Mary Chimarusit, Beth Shively, Courtnex Thibodeaux, Aaron Valor

Others in attendance: Jaunetta Cooper (president elect beginning July 1), Beth Marshall (parliamentarian beginning July 1)

1. Voted to approve minutes for December-May board meetings.
  - a. Discussed ensuring that consistent format and process is in place for future meeting minutes, beginning with new secretary term July 1
2. Reviewed and approved ministerial feedback form requested by Rev. Sarah
3. Policy discussion: rental space for political groups
  - a. Reviewed policy draft provided by Rev. Sarah
  - b. Discussed goal of drafting a clear policy to enable Jamie to respond easily and clearly to rental inquiries
  - c. Discussed whether policy adequately addresses need to maintain non-profit status by not endorsing or favoring a political party
  - d. Next step: to this end, a guideline will be added to policy to specifically exempt political candidates from renting the space for campaign purposes
  - e. BOT plans to review and vote on policy in July meeting
4. BOT communication
  - a. As the church year ends and some BOT positions turned over, discussed best practices for BOT communication
  - b. Will continue to use BOT folders in church Google drive
  - c. General board@northwoods email will be configured to forward to all current BOT members
  - d. As often as is reasonable, board plans to make intra-board communication redundant by sharing via email and on Discord; messages sent to one board member but meant for entire board will be forwarded
  - e. BOT group text will be used to alert BOT to check Discord so that votes and feedback are more efficient (group texts itself not meant to be a major form of communication)
  - f. C. Thibodeaux plans to create a document with communication channels and time frames in July meeting
  - g. BOT plans to create a covenant for itself at fall board retreat
5. A. Valor presented a brief Discord tutorial for the BOT and suggested folks mute channels that are not of interest in order to alleviate overwhelm with the app.
6. Update on bylaw revision vote

- a. Vote is scheduled for September 7
  - b. 40% of congregation needed for the vote
  - c. Vote will be advertised in Beacon Bits, order of service, and possibly an announcement in service
  - d. If the revisions are voted down, written feedback will be solicited
    - i. C. Thibodeaux will take the lead on this process
    - ii. Idea: a QR code could be provided
  - e. Juanetta suggested we run a shortened service that Sunday so that there is ample time for the vote without keeping people too long; BOT agreed, will coordinate with Rev. Katie, who is scheduled to be in the pulpit then
7. Treasurer's Report: J. Northum not present, but treasurer's report available digitally
8. Past president reflection: Outgoing past president B. Shively shared reflection on church dynamics and suggestions for ideas the BOT might choose to pursue next
- a. BOT can continue to refine communication processes
  - b. Joint efforts with LDC and HCC might create common documents (housed on Google drive) to track who is in which positions, how they are elected or appointed and by whom, and when terms end. Position descriptions could be a next step.
  - c. Rev. Sarah has suggested that it is time for the church to revisit its mission and vision, as it does on a regular basis.
  - d. The BOT should continue to be thoughtful about how generational (both age and in terms of time at Northwoods) divides affect dynamics at Northwoods