



Northwoods Unitarian Universalist Church

1370 North Millbend Drive

The Woodlands, TX 77380

Phone: 281-298-2780

E-mail: office@northwoodsuu.org

Website: www.northwoodsuu.org



Northwoods Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes for August 20, 2025

- Board members present: Austin Gatchell, Jaunetta Cooper, Aaron Valor, Scott Witt, Courtney Thibodeaux, Jeremy Northum, Tdale Bagwell
- Other members present: Jamie Thompson, Rev. Sarah Prickett
- Meeting minutes for Jul 16, 2025
 - Jaunetta motioned to approve minutes, seconded by Scott
 - Meeting minutes were approved
- Courtney motioned to add Bradley Smith to the Endowment Committee, seconded by another board member
 - Motion approved
- Minister's report discussion
 - Rev. Sarah asked board to read "Looking Ahead" section during her sabbatical
 - Scott Witt asked what the process of educating the congregation might look like
 - Rev. Sarah explained it as preparation for congregational discussion about church's values and identity
- Treasurer's report discussion
 - Checking account has ~\$60,000
 - This afternoon, paddle project account was opened with ~\$5,900
 - Rev. Katie's contract was written and signed
 - Jeremy suggested that capital reserve account should be opened savings
- Truth Pregnancy Research Center

- Jaunetta motioned to approve setting up a collection box for Truth Pregnancy Research Center items, seconded by Courtney
- Motion approved
- Vanguard paperwork
 - Aaron, Austin, and Jeremy signed form, but minutes still need to be signed
 - Aaron asked Jamie to print the minutes from the previous meeting
 - Jamie noted that she will not be available until Friday
 - Aaron, Austin, and Jeremy agreed to meet sometime after Friday to sign the minutes
- Board email appears not to be working
 - Jaunetta sent email to board to test forwarding, but most members did not receive it
 - Aaron received it because Courtney had set it to forward to him
 - Courtney offered to share board email login info with board as a temporary solution
 - Board email announcement to congregation
 - Discord, Facebook, bulletin board, knock-knock joke raffle, putting it on the website, and order of service were suggested
 - Jamie offered to include login info for board email on private board Discord channel
 - Jaunetta volunteered to post notification on Discord
 - Jamie volunteered to post to bulletin board, email, and Beacon Bits
 - Aaron wanted to workshop the announcement message
- Discussion on meeting minutes
 - Austin: Where should they be published/distributed?
 - Google Drive meeting minutes folder, email to board, and private Board Discord channel
 - Send to Jamie after approval of meeting minutes
 - Aaron and Jeremy: No duplicate meeting minutes document
 - Aaron volunteered to send minutes and agenda to Jamie
 - Beacon Bits meeting minutes summary

- Meeting minutes summary must be sent to Jamie by noon on Wednesday
- Limit summary to 150–200 words
- Courtney suggested taking names out
- Rev. Sarah: Use ChatGPT to outline actions and conversations to encourage congregation's participation through ease of access
- Board generally agreed that saving the summary as a separate document is unnecessary
- Scott motioned to allow publication of unapproved minutes summary, seconded by Jaunetta
 - Motion approved
- Process for updating leadership directory
 - Jamie noted that she has had primary responsibility, will post process in Discord for review
 - Jamie requested a better process for alerting her of group leadership turnover
- Board retreat
 - Held at 7:00 PM on September 5 in the Garden Room and from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM on September 6 in the Sanctuary
- Mission and Vision, Part 2
 - Rev. Sarah on purpose of Mission and Vision
 - Discuss most important values that the congregation shares
 - Marketing, or how the church is presented to the world
 - Suggested Strength-based assessment with Appreciative Inquiry
 - Jaunetta emphasized how it will be turned into action
 - Courtney: Is this more board-centric, or is it to be presented to the congregation?
 - Board members encouraged to review current Mission and Vision statement (posted on the Northwoods website) and Sociocracy

Action Items

- Aaron, Austin, and Jeremy: Meet sometime after Friday to sign the meeting minutes for Vanguard
- Board: Find a solution to forwarding emails sent to the board email address to all Board members
- Jaunetta: Post board email address to Discord
- Board: Workshop the announcement message
- Austin: Publish meeting minutes to Google Drive meeting minutes folder, email meeting minutes to board, and post minutes on private board Discord channel
- Aaron: Send minutes and agenda to Jamie when available
- Austin: Send meeting minutes summary to Jamie by noon on Wednesday
- Board: Find a better process for alerting Jamie of group leader turnover
- Board: Review current Mission and Vision statement and Sociocracy ahead of board retreat