

**Minutes of Coordinating Council Meeting
May 5, 2026**

In Attendance:

Olga Hebert Thom Reeves John Spitzer Annie Harrison Sally Erb Drew Stuart
Steve Leapley Rev. Dr. Amy Petrie Shaw Eileen Leapley Honor Posey Cathay Keough

Meeting began at 9:30 a.m. Chalice was lit, words were spoken by Rev. Amy.

Drew distributed an article from *The New Yorker*, 2023. A brief discussion was held about the importance of connections. Honor discussed her plans for helping to create more connections at UUCOV, in terms of spirituality, wellness, etc.

Team Discussions:

Campus Team - Steve discussed installing an automatic door opener in the Sanctuary bathroom. He initially had difficulty obtaining bids; he did get one for \$2400. The question was raised as to which bathroom should the door be installed in. It was agreed that the bathroom closest to the lanai would work best. It will be paid for partially by a congregant, and the rest via the Wish List. Steve made a motion to approve the installation of the automatic door opener; Thom seconded. It was approved unanimously, upon partial funding as a Wish List item.

Steve discussed receiving the first water bill for our reclaimed water. It was \$127, instead of around \$25, which had been the expected amount. He was going out this morning to look for any leaks which would account for the high bill. (Steve returned to the meeting after checking for leaks. He found one and repaired it.)

Steve discussed creating a permanent seat chart for the Sanctuary on framed poster board, to aid in replacing the seats after they've been removed for events. Honor volunteered to create the seat chart.

Cathay Keough discussed our growing library. She has two dedicated volunteers, and greatly appreciates them. We now have over 700 books in our collection. She'd like to add to our banned book collection. The library really needs a more comfortable space. Cathay requested a budget, to pay for the online library catalog, for processing books, to buy new books, etc. The catalog cost is now about \$300 per year, and will increase a bit as it grows. A library of "things" was discussed, such as carpentry tools. A puzzle library has already been started.

Olga made a motion to create Cathay's team, the UUCOV Library Team. Seconded by Thom. The UUCOV Library Team was approved unanimously, and it will come under Education and Engagement, led by Honor. Cathay will submit a budget request to the Fiscal Team.

Fiscal Team - John reported that the Board has approved funding an inspection of Waters Hall, at the request of the Renovation committee. A survey is expected to be sent out shortly to the congregation, asking their preferences in renovating Waters Hall.

Membership Team - Annie reported that Honor, Marty Wilmer, and Rev. Amy are planning a summer Pathways for July 26th, to be coordinated by Marty. A signup sheet will be placed on the signup table.

After the Saving Democracy rally, it was decided that we need some updated banners. We now have two beautiful new banners, an 8 foot and a 6 foot, which were created by Rev. Amy. They are housed in the front hall closet, and should be used for any outside events.

Jackie Wides is coordinating focus groups with our estimated 45 new members. Participants will be asked questions such as how their needs can be better met. Our membership numbers are holding steady; we've recently lost three and gained three.

Communications Team - Sally – Her team is part of the focus groups as well.

Green and Garden Team – Olga is concerned that many on her team are leaving for up north. She does have several members who stay through the summer who can water the gardens, and her visiting grandson can help.

Worship Arts – Rev. Amy reported that she is gaining five new members on her Team. They will be trained now and in the fall. She will be looking for adaptive ways to help all the worship associates.

Rev. Amy will meet with the U.U.A. Ministerial Fellowship Committee in September to request that they waive the three-year gap necessary before she can be installed as our called minister.

Caring Team – Eileen reported that we have several members in ill health who need our help. At this time of year we are looking for additional helpers who stay in Venice through the summer.

Meeting ended at 10:12 a.m.

Next meeting will be on Tuesday, June 2, at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Eileen Leapley