

## **THE BOARD AND ITS DUTIES**

### **A. Board Focus**

Consistent with the FUS Statement of Governance, the Board will:

- a. Provide strategic leadership and collective decision making
- b. Focus on the future rather than the past or present
- c. Proactively plan rather than react
- d. Encourage diverse viewpoints

### **B. Board Covenant**

Trustees will:

- a. Mindfully interpret the Statement of Purpose to ensure that FUS purposes are fulfilled and FUS continues to thrive.
- b. Honor commitments made individually and collectively.
- c. Ask for help when the workload proves too heavy and step forward to help when another member needs assistance.
- d. Invite all voices in by encouraging every trustee to express their truth as they experience it.
- e. Speak with one voice once a decision has been made.
- f. Be prepared and focused at meetings and accept with serious intent the work of the Board, actively participating in board activities and committees.
- g. Promote a trusting, safe and rewarding board environment.
- h. Assume good will and be worthy of it.

### **C. Trustee Responsibilities**

Trustee responsibilities involve much more than attending board meetings once per month. They include:

- a. Becoming well familiarized with all FUS policies.
- b. Investing time meeting with the congregation formally and informally.
- c. Bringing clear thinking and vision for the future, which means being mindful of trends affecting UU communities and our community at large.
- d. Engaging in meaningful discussion about difficult topics with other trustees.
- e. Being organized and following-through on tasks.

### **D. Board Role, Accountability and Limits**

The Board, elected by the congregation, has fiduciary and policy-making authority for all FUS matters other than calling minister and approving annual budgets. The Board articulates the FUS mission, establishes a consistent strategic vision, goals and policies to ensure that they are achieved. The Board will:

- a. Set strategic organizational goals on a regular basis which guide the work and decisions of the Board, the senior minister, staff and lay leaders.
- b. Actively and deliberately consider the relationship of the congregation in the present to its links to the past, and its vision for the future.
- c. Work with the FUS called minister to ensure FUS goals are advanced.
- d. Be accountable to the congregation for competent, conscientious, and effective execution of its duties and will allow no individual or Board committee to usurp its role.
- e. Monitor and regularly discuss its performance; the Board, not the staff or Executive, will be responsible for its performance.
- f. Embrace the Board Covenant.
- g. Ensure that its policies are followed.