

The Business Meeting of the SWUUW Conference at First Unitarian Church of Dallas, Tx, was called to order at 1:00 pm, Saturday, 3/4/23, by President Becky Warren of Waco, Tx.

1. Thanks were offered to staff members of First Unitarian Church of Dallas: Sharon Thompson and Sarah Chester, who assisted in the site planning activities. First Unitarian Church member Paula Rose, a planning team member, was also thanked.
2. Chloe LaPorte, Past President of SWUUW, presented an “ice-breaker” to involve the group.
3. The slate of candidates for Board officers of 2023-24 was presented.

- . President: Kathy Johnson-Throop
- . President-Elect: Nikole Witt
- . Past-President: Becky Warren
- . Treasurer: Katie Womack
- . Secretary: Celeste Kennedy
- . Board Member-at- Large: Vicki Verinder
- . Board Member-at-Large: Donna Dier
- . Board Member-at-Large: Open
- . Board Member-at-Large: Open

The candidates were introduced. A motion to approve the slate was made by Becky Warren, Seconded by S. Thompson. The motion passed.

4. Outgoing President Becky drew attention to the handout on the tables about “Joining the FUUN” and Becoming a SWUUW Board Member. It provided an overview of who we are, what we do and what is involved with being a SWUUW Board member.
5. Becky also drew attention to the handout on “Hosting a SWUUW Conference”. The document covered the timeline, the SWUUW Board’s role, and the kind and amount of work involved. Those interested and excited about hosting the 2025 SWUUW Conference were encouraged to contact Becky or other SWUUW Board Members for more advice.
6. It was pointed out that the first step in conference planning is to identify all the large amount non-discretionary costs. This generally includes the costs of the facility, meals and AV. Some hotels are now charging for conference room usage. Usually, sleeping room charges will not be a SWUUW charge unless a minimum is not met.

This begins the process to estimate costs on a per person basis— which begins the estimate of the registration fee and the amount, if any, to be subsidized by SWUUW.

7. Note: Different Paradigms for Conference Planning: this conference tried out the paradigm of not using a conference hotel but of using a large church facility for workshops, vendors, the celebration dinner, and other conference activities — while lodging at a local hotel.

This conference also used the SWUUW Board as the planning team, instead of a congregation guided by the SWUUW Board.

8. The Minutes from 2022 Business Meeting were approved by the membership. Incoming Secretary Celeste Kennedy presented the minutes and made a motion to approve. Lillibet Wesson of Pathways UU, seconded. The motion was approved.

9. The Budget for SWUUW for 2023-24 was motioned for approval by Treasurer Katie Womack. The \$20,600 Budget was approved with a second by Lillibet Wasson.

10. Becky announced the Go Fund Me drive for SWUUW Administrator, Jackie Purdie-Andrew, whose husband was in a motorcycle accident in Austin which left his lower body paralyzed. He is working to improve through rehab services. The couple have an 11 month old child.

11. Preview of SWUUW Con 2024 - Katie Womack and Kathy Johnson-Throop gave a preview of next year's SWUUW conference which will be held at Camp Allen, Navasota, Tx, east of College Station, (home of Texas A&M College, main campus), and west of Houston, Tx.

Incoming President Kathy described the Camp Allen retreat center site. It has a lodge, eating facilities, workshop spaces and hotel rooms. The meals are included in the overall price. There are two lakes on the premises - which is situated in the piney woods of Texas.

SWUUW has held Board retreats there several times and the UU Church of the Brazos Valley holds their retreats at the site.

12. Promotion: Currently SWUUW is holding enough rooms for 70 attendees : 30 - double rooms, and 10 single rooms.

Treasurer Katie announced a promotional discount for early SWUUW Con 24 registrants: the first registrants who pay \$100 by June 1, 2023, will save their place and receive a 15% discount on the total conference registration fee, which has yet to be determined.

13. The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Celeste Kennedy
SWUUW Secretary