

# CANADIAN UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEETING JUNE 2, 2012

## DRAFT MINUTES

The meeting was held by teleconference. Checking in were the following members: Elizabeth Atchison, Barbara Bowmar, Audrey Brooks, Gillian Burton, Nonie Buski, Bev Campbell, Lynda Campbell, Betty Donaldson, Glenys Elliott, Celeste Erendrea, Phyllis Gardiner, Christine Johnston, Dorothy Keeler, Pauline Kenneally, Margaret Linton, Mary Lu MacDonald, Theresa Marion, Jessica Motherwell, Vyda Ng, Alison Patrick, Ruth Patrick, Elaine Roberts, Janice Tait, Bunny Turner, Kim Turner, Jean Zwicky.

In addition, there were proxy votes for the following members:

Elizabeth Bowen, Jane Fox, Elaine Harvey, Janice Hocking, Hilary Johnson, Yvonne Johnson, Marya Nijland, Audrey O'Callaghan, Nancy Reynolds.

First, the opening words: Last year at CUC in Toronto, Betty purchased an art piece that says: "It takes a swirling chaos to create a dancing star". That phrase has been prominently displayed in my office during the past year and it's inspired me to strive toward creating the constellation that is CUUWA.

1. Agenda, with the addition of two items under number 4.5 – update on the website and "in memoriam" the agenda was approved without dissent.
2. Minutes of inaugural meeting in Toronto May 21, 2011. Approved without dissent.
3. President's and Treasurer's reports. The President added to her circulated report information about the formation of a subcommittee on reproductive rights. The Treasurer stated that membership, as of meeting date, stood at 77, with a bank balance of \$815. Several expenses, as listed in her report, are due but not yet paid. As decided at the inaugural meeting the membership fee will be \$25 for the year beginning July 1 and a five year membership is available for \$100. Cheques should be sent to the treasurer, Ruth Patrick, in her name and to her address: 2903 Rabbit Hill Road NW, Apt. 315, Edmonton AB, T6R 3A3, with CUUWA in the memo line. The Treasurer moved adoption of her report, seconded by Dorothy Keeler. Both reports passed without dissent.
- 4.1. Discussion about the focus of the subcommittee on reproductive rights, and whether it should be expanded to include other aspects such as pregnancy care under the heading of "sexual health". The president felt that we should initially concentrate on the narrower focus of abortion availability and mothers' health during pregnancy rather than the entire life span. No decision was reached on specific terms of reference for this committee. Jane Fox and Margaret Linton have agreed to serve on the committee and Jessica Motherwell volunteered to join them.
- 4.2. Calgary AGM 2013. Moved by Ruth Patrick and seconded by Janice Tait that Jane Ebbert be Chair of the Host Committee. Approved without dissent. Vyda Ng informed us that we must get our time and space request in as soon as possible because scheduling will be very tight. Janice Tait to do this.
- 4.3. Communications. We will try to arrange for a women's service in all congregations on the Sunday closest to International Women's Day, which in 2013 will be March 10..

An invitation to congregations to participate will be posted on the CUC website. The International Convocation of Unitarian Universalist Women (ICUW) will hold a meeting in Romania in September. Christine Johnston is a member and will represent CUUWA. The following links to other women's organizations and issues were given:

Link to NAF – access to abortion

<http://prochoice.org/canada/access.html>

Link to PEI abortion protest

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/prince-edward-island/story/2012/05/10/pei-march-for-life-protest-584.html>

Link to international Convocation of UU Women <http://www.icuww.com/>

Link to CUUWA website <http://www.cuuwa.org/>

Additional communication information under 4.5.

4.4. Male Members. The President reported that we have had membership requests from two males. Replies were sent noting that we will consider the matter in Calgary in 2013.

4.5. Website. Margaret Linton reported that the website is up and a domain name has been purchased. The setup is still in progress. The site is modeled on the CUSJ site and is located at [www.cuuwa.org](http://www.cuuwa.org). There was an appeal for photos. It was requested that there be a twitter feed added. Margaret also stated that the introduction of a listserv will begin at the end of June. Members will be individually invited to join it.

In Memoriam. Norma Lockwood of Comox died on May 16 2012. The meeting observed a moment of silence in her honour and the following poem was read.

In the beginning are the seeds of our endings.

In our endings is the memory of our beginnings.

In our growth between them are the fruits of our living,

Let us give thanks for life's beginnings and life's endings

And let us celebrate growth and fruition, hope and memory, and that enriches us along the road.

“The Way of the Pilgrim”, Cliff Reed. {used in the British Women's League service, 2011}

In future, an In Memoriam item will be included in all AGM agendas to honour the passage of members.

5. Modification of the organization's name. It was moved by Mary Lu MacDonald and seconded by Janice Tait “that the official name of this organization be modified to read Canadian Unitarian Universalist Women's Association and that the bylaws be changed to eliminate the word "and" and its ampersand in all instances where the name of the organization is used in our bylaws.” Approved without dissent.

6. New Business. Suggestions: that assistance to transgendered individuals be included in our mandate with our focus being on their transition to womanhood; that we strive to bring in young women; that we explore greater use of online services for our meetings.

7. Adjournment. Moved by Janice Tait.

## APPENDICES

### CUUWA CHAIR'S REPORT TO AGM, JUNE 2, 2012

The momentous Founding year closes with the 2012 AGM. Like most first year olds, we have learned how to take some independent steps and to make our wishes understood, but we still have much to learn before we are truly self-governing. Nevertheless, it is our first birthday so let's celebrate!

Here are some reasons:

1. By early September, we completed the By Laws and forwarded them to CUC. Sept 28, Council received notice that CUUWA is now an Associate Member.
2. We have 77 Founding members across the country – 2 others are in England.
3. Council has held quarterly email meetings throughout the year. Among the achievements has been the development of a women's service (Halifax – Mary Lu) that we hope will be adapted for national use possibly on the Sunday nearest March 8. As outreach, Gillian and Betty prepared a short list of charitable organizations that members could support by donations in lieu of personal gifts to friends. Ruth has had an article published in the CUC newsletter; Margaret has maintained periodic communication with members and will develop a list serve after the AGM for members in good standing. Janice developed guidelines for host committee and Jane Ebbert, Calgary will be the local leader for the AGM 2013. Ellen Pappenburg has been hired to develop a web page and we'd love some photos of UU women in action.
4. Challenges impeding development include organizational liaison with CUC after the ED departed and staff changed. This problem might be reduced during the next year. On the -to -be accomplished short list: We'd like improved communication with the other Unitarian Women's organizations and between ourselves. We could use a logo – and a cartoonist.
5. We encourage and invite members to propose developmental suggestions but also to accept responsibility for evolving the idea, with Council as supporters.
6. I'm recommending a sub-committee to monitor the reproductive rights political issue. Jane Fox, Comox, BC and Margaret Linton, Ottawa, have agreed to serve but at least one more member is needed. Are there any volunteers, preferably from Central, Eastern or Atlantic Canada?
7. We have had 2 men inquire about membership and have responded that this decision will be delayed until the 2013 AGM. We still need time to talk amongst ourselves.
8. The common use of CUUWA, without the original &, has developed during the past year. We hope to make this official at the AGM. Therefore, in accordance with our By Laws have proposed a motion with the hope we have consensus.
9. According to our founding meeting May, 2011 minutes and the By Laws that were circulated previously, our annual fees will be raised this year to \$25 with the option of paying \$100 for a 5-year membership. Also, the initial Council members will serve until the Calgary AGM after which there will be elections. Please indicate whether you would like to be more actively involved at this level. On behalf of all founding members, I would like to express appreciation to all members of Council for their pioneering service.

If you have comments, questions or a response prior to the AGM, please email.

Betty Donaldson, Chair, CUUWA, ([edonalds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:edonalds@ucalgary.ca))

Blessed Be.

**CU&UWA FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**MAY 2011 -- June 30, 2012**

**Revenue:**

Membership: \$10.00 per member:	\$770.00
Two partial prepaid memberships 2012/13:	<u>\$ 25.00</u>
Total funds in account.....	\$795.00

**Expenditures:** (formal billing not yet received)

To establish our website:	\$400.00
Executive conference call May 9, 2012.....	\$ 0.00
Annual meeting telephone conference:....	\$ 49.95
Total Expenditures:	\$449.25

Funds are presently held in a secondary account in my name. Separate monthly financial statements are received for that account. As I am a senior, there are no interest charges. Cheques to pay for membership must be made to Ruth Patrick, with CU&UWA on the cheque memo line.

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**\*\*\*MEMBERSHIP:**

One member resigned during the year. We currently have 76 active members enrolled. Please report any email or address changes to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,  
M. Ruth Patrick, treasurer