AGENDA – CUF Congregational Meeting
May 31, 2020, at 11:00 am, via Zoom

Welcome and Chalice lighting
Call to order, instructions and president’s report

Welcome and Chalice lighting  Rev. Sarah
Call to order, instructions and president’s report  Miriam L-M.

Bylaws Changes Proposal

Motion #1: Be it resolved that the following changes be made to CUF’s By-Laws:
VI. 5. Votes of the Board require a quorum of more than half of the voting board
members, excluding unfilled board seats. Scheduled Board meetings that do not have a
quorum are considered adjourned with no action.
VII. 6. Delete “Vacancies shall be filled within 45 days from the date that the
Board declares the position open.”

Bylaws Changes Proposal  Jonathan S.

Treasurer’s Report

Motion regarding the Rose Annuity

Motion #2: Be it resolved to transfer $4806 from the Rose Annuity to the operating
budget to cover the legal fees incurred in handling this settlement. (Other purposes for
this money will be decided at a later date.)

Treasurer’s Report  Tabitha A.

Motion regarding the Rose Annuity  Tabitha A.

Proposed FY2021 Budget

Proposed FY2021 Budget  Tabitha A.

Nominating Committee Presentation of Slate

Motion #3: Let it be moved to vote into office by acclimation the following
slate: Miriam Link-Mullison for 2nd term as president, Laraine Wright and Nan Sorrels
as Board of Trustees members.

Nominating Committee Presentation of Slate  Martha S.

Call for nominees from the floor for Nom. Com.

Motion# 4: Let it be moved to appoint Darl Young, Joyce Shepherd, and Tasha
Youngblood to serve on the Nominating Committee.

Call for nominees from the floor for Nom. Com.  Miriam L-M.

Proposed Social Justice Campaign:

Proposed Social Justice Campaign:  Bill S.

Motion #5: Be it resolved that the Carbondale Unitarian Fellowship adopts
“VoteLove – Engaging the Democratic Process and Social Justice” (as described
in the proposal below) as our congregation-wide social justice campaign over the period

Proposed Social Justice Campaign:  Bill S.

Adjourn

Adjourn

The Treasurer’s Report and 2021 Proposed Budget will be e-mailed out the the week
before the meeting.
VoteLove—Engaging the Democratic Process and Social Justice: A Proposed Congregation-Wide Social Justice Campaign

CUF’s 2019 Strategic Plan calls for “identifying [a] congregation-wide focus/priorities for Social Justice and [for] a process for changing that focus.” The Social Action and VoteLove Committees are proposing that “VoteLove: engaging the democratic process” be our Social Justice focus for the coming year (June, 2020 to May, 2021). This focus includes a number of objectives that will reach across all areas of our Fellowship as highlighted in our Strategic Plan. This proposal has previously been approved by the CUF VoteLove Team and the Social Action Committee, and an earlier version has been submitted for publication in the May issue of CUF Links. This version is presented to the Board of Trustees with the hope that the Board will add it to the agenda of the Congregational Meeting in May 2020. The campaign sponsors also plan to organize several discussion sessions, open to all interested members of the Fellowship, prior to the Congregational Meeting.

The basic vision of the proposed campaign for the coming year engages the Fellowship in VoteLove and the democratic process in accordance with our principles, vision, covenant and strategic plan. In pursuing this focus, we will collaborate with the Unitarian Universalist Advocacy Network of Illinois (UUANI), VoteLove (the statewide effort here in Illinois), UU the Vote (the national UU electoral initiative), the Ralph Anderson Interfaith Dialogue, and other relevant local organizations. In January, nineteen CUF members participated in the national UUtheVote kickoff, and we are already working on various aspects of the VoteLove statewide campaign.

Please note the timeliness of this campaign in relation to our upcoming 2020 elections. There may never be a more important time to work for UU values in the democratic process. But note further that this campaign does not end on election night; whoever may be elected, there will be important opportunities to share our UU values widely in relation to many issues across the spectrum of justice.

This nonpartisan campaign will include many different opportunities for participation, such that every Fellowship member or friend will be able to support this campaign. The following are examples of what participation may include:

- Using our Sunday services and educational programs to explore topics such as voting issues, the process of democracy, and advocacy work.
- Encouraging existing CUF groups, from the Round Table Readers to the Art Colony to the Video Circle to the Awakening Hearts Dharma Group (and all points in between), to consider how engaging the 2020 election can be part of their group’s activities during this year.
- Enrolling CUF as a Bona Fide State Civic Organization to facilitate training as voter registrars.
- Encouraging registration of voters at various places, e.g. SIU, farmer’s markets, high schools.
- Engaging the public with speakers, as well as candidate or issue forums that relate to our basic UU values and their application in democracy.
• Hosting Zoom meetings that will reach out to possible new voters and youth about registering to vote, social and other issues, and various aspects of our democratic process.

• Exploring how CUF youth and young adults can participate in this effort.

• Encouraging community participation in the 2020 Census, and making information about the citizenship application process widely available.

• Encouraging active participation through dialog and advocacy with elected officials including visits, calls, mailings, and petitions at the local, state, and national levels continuing into 2021.

• Supporting actively the democratic process after the 2020 election, in ways such as making our values and principles known to those elected, advocating on behalf of issues and specific legislation, encouraging participation in public events, and continuing voter registration and education activities.

Other ongoing CUF social action efforts, such as the Spirit of Christmas, food drives, Social Action Sunday offerings will continue. We hope that this campaign will help us learn, as a congregation, how we can collaborate as a congregation to live our principles more fully as we did with the yearlong immigrant rights focus last year.

This proposal has been developed as a collaborative effort of Laura and Gene Basanta, Bill Sasso, Kathy O’Laughlin, the CUF VoteLove Team, and the CUF Social Action Committee.