

**Minutes, Unitarian Church of Edmonton Board of Trustees
January 21 – 7:15 p.m. – on Zoom**

Board members: president Lynne Turvey, vice president Sue Lynch, treasurer Andrew Mills, secretary Susan Ruttan, trustees Wendy Smith and Declan Kiely.

Rev. Rosemary Morrison, ex officio

Opening Words, Chalice Lighting: Rev. Morrison

Check-In

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Sue, seconded by Declan. CARRIED

Minutes: January 2026 minutes were approved by email on January 23.

New Business:

1. a) Board resignation – Gerard Hayduk has resigned from the board because of family obligations.
b) Board succession strategy needed – Lynne informed the board that we have had no nomination committee this year, so she and Susan have been trying to find people to sit on the board, *for 2026/27*. Members discussed ways to bring more people onto the board – offering training, and Susan speaking at church about how important the board is. Lynne asked board members to send any ideas/suggestions to her and Susan for discussion at the February board meeting.

Ongoing Business:

1. Genocide Memorial Garden Update – Sue Lynch provided a written report on the status of Audrey Brooks' Genocide Memorial Garden proposal. Sue said we are waiting to hear from Westwood Unitarians if they will incorporate the garden into their front yard.

Reports:

1. Finance – Andrew Mills talked about his plans to launch a garage sale with items being collected over three months and stored in the church until sale day. Andrew is this year serving as the Canvass chair for the 20th straight year and would like someone else to do it. He thinks we won't do another 50-50 raffle until the fall. The treasurer's financial information was sent earlier, along with the Finance Committee minutes.
2. Minister – Rev. Rosemary Morrison provided a written report for both November and December, and answered questions about it.

Membership Changes: Moved by Susan, seconded by Sue, that the board approve Kelly Bertrand, Hope Najjuka and Fortune Nwoke as new members, on the condition that they sign a new membership application form that contains the church's Covenant of Right Relations. CARRIED. Rev. Rosemary will see that administrator Janet Polkovsky creates this new membership form, which will have a line where the applicant signs their approval of the covenant. Rosemary will also see that the three current applicants get the new form. Susan will review a description of the new member application process that was created by Brandie Moller-Reid.

Adjourn. Next meeting: Feb. 18, 2026