

## **Proposed**

# **Bylaws of the DuPage Unitarian Universalist Church**

*Trial - FY2021-22*

## **ARTICLE I: NAME AND AFFILIATION**

The name of this Church is the DuPage Unitarian Universalist Church. The Church shall be affiliated with the Unitarian Universalist Association and the American Humanist Association, or their legal successors, and with other organizations approved by the Congregation and noted in the Name, Affiliation, and Dissolution Policy.

## **ARTICLE II: PURPOSE**

Endorsing no creed, the DuPage Unitarian Universalist Church supports the free and responsible search for truth and meaning for all, and affirms the inherent worth and dignity of every person.

## **ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP IN THE CONGREGATION**

Section 1. Full and equal membership in the Congregation of this Church shall be open to all persons in accordance with the Membership Policy who complete the joining process and maintain active engagement in the life of the Church. Membership shall cease in accordance with the Membership Policy.

Section 2. Voting privileges shall begin forty-five days after becoming a member.

## **ARTICLE IV: BUSINESS MEETINGS OF THE CONGREGATION**

Section 1. A quorum at any Business Meeting of the Congregation shall consist of 20 percent of the members of the Congregation eligible to vote, except as otherwise specified in Article VII or the Business Meetings Policy.

Section 2. Voting privileges and ballot types are permitted as outlined in the Membership and Business Meetings Policies.

Section 3. As the fiscal year of the Church begins June 1, the annual Business Meeting of the Congregation shall be held in the month of June, at a time and place determined by the Board. At this meeting, Officers and Trustees shall be elected for the term beginning at the close of the meeting, and the operating budget for the next fiscal year shall be adopted. Other business may be transacted. Reports of the committees and program teams shall be submitted to the membership, as specified in the Business Meetings Policy.

Section 4. Other Business Meetings of the Congregation may be called, as outlined in the Business Meetings Policy. The purpose of such meetings must be stated in the notices of the meetings.

Section 5. Notice of all Business Meetings of the Congregation, including agenda, and - as appropriate - slate of nominees, shall be given at least two weeks in advance of the meeting date.

Section 6. Business Meetings shall be conducted according to the rules contained in "Robert's Rules of Order" most current edition, in all cases to which the rules are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the Church may adopt as noted in the Business Meetings Policy.

#### **ARTICLE V: BOARD OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES**

Section 1. The Board shall exercise the corporate power vested in the Church by the State of Illinois.

Section 2. The Board, consisting of President, Officers, and Trustees as described in the Board of Trustees Policy, shall meet regularly to focus its energy on the core Board roles of fiduciary oversight, policy creation, delegation of authority, and evaluation of outcomes.

#### **ARTICLE VI: NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS, TRUSTEES AND OTHER DESIGNATED POSITIONS**

Section 1. The Nominating Committee shall nominate a member of the Congregation for each of the Board Officers and other elected positions as terms end, as described in the Nominating Committee Policy. The election will take place at the annual Business Meeting of the Congregation.

Section 2. Vacancies in any Officer position, Trustee-at-Large position, Nominating Committee position, Endowment Committee position, or other elected position as described in the Policy Manual shall be filled by vote of the Board for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Section 3. At any Business Meeting of the Congregation, on written petition of 20 percent of the members eligible to vote, a resolution may be considered to remove any Officer or Trustee. A two-thirds vote of the membership present and eligible to vote shall be necessary to adopt this resolution. The Minister, the President, and the Clerk of the Congregation must be notified of the proposal in writing thirty days in advance of the meeting. The Clerk shall cause notice of the proposal to accompany all announcements of the Business Meeting at which it will be considered.

#### **ARTICLE VII: MINISTER**

Section 1. A person to be called as Minister of this Church must have ministerial standing in the Unitarian Universalist Association.

Section 2. The selection of a minister requires an 80 percent vote of the members voting at a Congregational meeting for which this agenda item has been legally announced and at which a quorum shall be 40 percent of the members eligible to vote. Voting privileges and ballot types shall be as noted in the Membership Policy.

Section 3. The Minister shall perform duties as noted in the Delegation to Staff Policy.

Section 4. The Minister shall be a member *ex officio* of all Boards, Committees, and organizations of the Church but shall be without vote except in the Business Meetings of the Church.

Section 5. At any Business Meeting of the Church on written petition of 25 percent of the members eligible to vote the following resolution may be considered: "Resolved that the present ministerial relations with the Minister shall be dissolved and terminated 90 days from the effective date of this resolution." With a quorum of 40 percent established, a one-third vote of the membership present and voting shall be necessary to adopt this resolution.

#### **ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. Amendments to the Bylaws may be proposed by the Board or upon written petition to the Clerk by 20 percent of voting members of the Church. Amendments so proposed by the Board or by members shall be announced to the Congregation two weeks in advance of a regularly scheduled open meeting of the Board.

Section 2. If warranted, the Bylaws may then be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members eligible to vote and present at a Business Meeting of the Church.

#### **ARTICLE IX: DISSOLUTION OF THE CHURCH**

In case of the dissolution of this Church as outlined in the Name, Affiliations, and Dissolution Policy, all its properties, real and personal, after paying all just claims upon it, shall be conveyed to, and rest in, the Unitarian Universalist Association or its successor or successors, to be used in fostering the growth of Unitarian Universalism.