

Board of Trustees of Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
November 11, 2025 Minutes

Attending (over internet via Zoom):

Jackie Roth

Jim Freschi

Roger Hallsten

Matt Lovering

Darlene Pagano (visiting)

The October 7 minutes were approved on email in October by the board members.

Today each board member said a personal check in.

Darlene introduced a proposal for the Fellowship to commit to ongoing action projects at Alameda Point Collaborative (APC) 4 times per year. The Fellowship had involvement when former member Katherine Duke served on the APC board, and some members currently volunteer at APC. APC has a new volunteer coordinator. Some Board members expressed uncertainty whether our congregation has enough interest for a regular commitment. The Board tabled the discussion without making any commitment now. However, Darlene was told she could see whether she could locate a congregant willing to be a coordinator if a commitment is made later.

Jim led a discussion about what political action Live Oak can take while maintaining its nonprofit status. The Board did not join recent initiatives to make political statements, such as signing on to a letter of opposition to military deployment in the Bay Area. Opinions of Board members appeared to vary regarding the desirability and the process for Live Oak to express positions on political issues. The discussion was tabled, with Jim intending to research and report back regarding our 501(c)3 non-profit restrictions.

Live Oak friend Neil Planchon wrote a letter to the Membership Committee which the Board discussed. The Board expressed appreciation for its many specific suggestions. Jackie agreed to develop a survey of the congregation regarding how individuals found Live Oak, how they wish to engage socially and to volunteer service, and if/how they wish Live Oak to make political statements.

The Board agreed that Jim would schedule our congregation to be responsible for providing a meal in 2026 to the Warming Shelter at Christ Church.

Roger could not remember whether he had contacted the Nominating Committee to prepare for the Jan 25 congregational meeting. (After the Board meeting Roger did confirm he had some email correspondence, and has sent another email to the Nominating Committee.)

Jim reported that 5 new members joined Live Oak on November 2. Also, the Worship committee has located speakers for approximately the next 6 months, with Bonny Dlott agreeing to leading several of the services. The Board agreed to next meet on Tues. Dec 9 at 7:30.

Matt did the closing reading.

After the meeting, the board unanimously approved by email donating \$250 to Christ Episcopal for its Thanksgiving Dinner.

Jim also committed Live Oak to providing a dinner for 20 to 25 people at the warming shelter on Saturday, Jan. 17, at Christ Episcopal Church.

Respectfully submitted by Roger Hallsten