



## REVISION HISTORY

New document.

### Overview

#### **2019 Revision of the Bylaws outlines the following:**

Section 3. Public Expression. The Congregation may express itself publicly, on any issue, in alignment with Unitarian Universalist Principles. Such expression will be approved through the Council for Faith in Action (CFA) on behalf of and with input from the Congregation.

## BACKGROUND/PURPOSE

#### **2019 Revision of the Bylaws outlines the following:**

Article X. Public Expression. The Congregation may express itself publicly, on any issue, in alignment with Unitarian Universalist Principles. Such expression will be approved through the Council for Faith in Action (CFA) on behalf of and with input from the Congregation.

UUCWC's Council for Faith in Action (CFA) is a collaborative, nonhierarchical, mission-driven team made up of the Justice Ministries UUCWC. In 2019, CFA was restructured to reflect its original purpose: to gather together the representatives of each justice ministry team so that all involved in this vital endeavor of bringing about the Beloved Community are in communication and working collaboratively.

UUCWC needs to be able to make the decision to express itself in the public arena. In 2019 it was determined by the CFA Council and minister, that Faith Expression and Funding Team (FEFT) of this Council is best suited to assume the responsibility for coordinating the decision-making process, in conjunction with input from the Congregation when appropriate.

**The Faith Expression and Funding Team (FEFT)** will be responsible for *procedures* for this policy and working with all of CFA in how public expression will be utilized and executed.

The purpose of this policy is:

- To outline the role the CFA will play with regards to UUCWC's wish to express itself publicly. This could include but not limited to:
  - Expressing our position on a current social, racial or economic justice issue;
  - Endorsement of the work of an outside organization, including being identified as a supporter of the organization or member of a coalition;
  - Endorsement of an outside event, including being listed on promotional materials and being present with a UUCWC banner or sign.



- Placing a banner in support of an issue or principle *on UUCWC grounds* is outside the scope of this policy and would require approval through a congregational meeting.

## **POLICY**

The Congregation may express itself publicly, on any issue, in alignment with Unitarian Universalist Principles. Such expression will be approved through the Council for Faith in Action (CFA) - on behalf of, and with input from, the Congregation as appropriate.

UUCWC does not engage in partisan politics, and does not endorse candidates for public office.

### **Expressing our position on a current social, racial or economic justice issue**

Requests or suggestions for public expression statements to be made on behalf of UUCWC should be submitted to FEFT. The submission will be reviewed by CFA Council members. (see procedures under Faith Funding and Expression Team)

All request for expression statements shall be reviewed to ensure:

- Accuracy and clarity;
- Statement is compatible with UUCWC's eight principles;
- Requesting group or individual submitting request is a member of UUCWC

Public Expression items will be discussed by CFA as a whole to continue the procedure as outlined (*see procedures*) in partnership with the Media Relations/Communications Team.

Any public communication representing UUCWC will be issued/ released under the name of the Minister and/or Board President. (endorsed). Only the Minister and Board President has this ability to make public comments (printed, electronic, etc.,) on behalf of the entire congregation.

### **Endorsement of the work of an outside organization,**

Such an endorsement includes but is not limited to being identified as a supporter of the organization or member of a coalition.

Endorsing a supporting organization will meet criteria as outlined in the policy for CFAs Expression for outside organizations (see procedures under Faith Funding and Expression Team procedures)



**Endorsement of an outside event,**

Endorsing an outside event includes but is not limited to being listed on promotional materials and being present with a UUCWC banner or sign.

UUCWC may wish to have its name as part of another event, organization support efforts. Such endorsements or alliances include, but not limited to, sponsorship listings, program acknowledgement, etc.

Procedures will be administered and maintained within the FEFT group who will work with requestors regarding listing of UUCWC. This will also include funding opportunities and allowing UUCWC name included in acknowledgements. (*see FEFT FUNDING policy and procedures*)

**Time Sensitive or Emergency Statement Requests**

Issues, actions or events may come up that require action in an expedited time frame. FEFT shall do its best to address public expression needs as quickly as possible using electronic methods and work with CFA as a whole to expedite the process.

**All statements for public distribution will include collaboration with the Communications Team and adhering to the Media Relations Policy of UUCWC. (*see policies*)**