



## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

November 17, 2025

Uplift Office

Presiding: President, **Carrie Drown**  
Recording Secretary: **Jennifer Nicholas**  
Parliamentarian: **Carol Coulter**

**Carrie Drown:** Welcome and Call to Order  
Recording Secretary: **Jennifer Nicholas**

**MOTION:** I move to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2025, Regular Meeting held at the Uplift Community Alliance office.

**PASSED**

### Officers' Reports

1. **President, Carrie Drown – Reporting**
  - Please report your hours.
  - Announced the winner of the “Wind Beneath My Wings” monthly award to Pat Blodgett.
2. **President- Elect, Merilynn Kessi – No Report**
3. **1<sup>st</sup> VP, Philanthropic Programs, Debbie Smith – Reporting: Barb Slater, Uplift School Kids and Debbie Smith, Old Navy Shopping Experience**
  - Two open positions in the programs. Please contact Debbie if interested.
    1. Brighter Tomorrows
    2. Uplift Shoes
  - Uplift Shopping Events were successful again this year for middle school aged kids.
  - Barb: 4,368 ULSK bags and 200 HeadStart bags made and delivered this year.
4. **2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Community Relations, MaryAnn Mackley – Reporting**
  - Annual Appeal has raised \$29,938 to date from the mail and digital versions.
  - Please pass on the digital version to friends and family.
  - The City Journal campaign is completed for this year. Several new members learned about ULCA from this campaign.
  - The MLD event will be scheduled in the future when a date has been determined.

5. **3<sup>rd</sup> VP, Member Services, Linda Stimpson – Reporting**
- The New Member Newsletter was sent on November 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - The Holiday Party will be **December 8<sup>th</sup>**. Reservations can be made on the website. The cost is \$50.00. Entrée orders will be taken at Carmine's.
  - When paying by check for the luncheon, Annual Appeal, dues, etc. please be sure to write in the memo line what the check is for so that the treasurer can account for the monies correctly.

6. **Treasurer, Peggy Carpenter – Reporting**  
**FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

	<u>Current Year</u>	<u>Prior Year</u>
Total YTD Ordinary Revenue through 09/30/25	\$ 396,551	\$ 421,057
Total YTD Expense through 09/30/25	\$ 574,035	\$ 546,335
Net Ordinary Income	\$ (177,485)	\$ (125,277)
Total Net Income Including Investment Income	\$ (119,856)	\$ ( 79,688)
Thrift Shop Revenue 06/1/25 – 09/30/25	\$ 327,542	\$ 318,783
Total Cash in Bank Accounts as of 09/30/25	\$ 997,389	\$1,047,866
Total Invested Assets as of 09/30/25	\$ 670,220	\$ 608,748
Total Cash plus Invested Assets	\$1,667,609	\$1,656,614

- Revenue and expenses are in line with being 41% of the way through the fiscal year.
- A reminder that all monthly financial statements are posted on the bulletin boards. A brief description of each statement was given.

**MOTION: I move to increase the Uplift Act III Band program budget by \$500 from \$500 to \$1,000.**

**Rationale:** Needed to fund "Costumes" for new members.

**PASSED**

7. **Bylaws, Val Mercer – Reporting**

**MOTION: from the Bylaws Committee.**

**I move to delete the word 'biennial' in Article 8 Standing and Special Committees, 8.02(g) Strategic Planning of the bylaws of Uplift Community Alliance.**

**(g) Strategic Planning.** The Strategic Planning Chair shall chair this committee, two members of which shall be appointed by the President. The duties of the committee shall be to develop a strategic plan for the organization's future growth and direction; organize the **biennial** evaluation of philanthropic programs and fundraising activities; and conduct market research relevant to the organization.

**Rationale:** The committee performs evaluations when circumstances or conditions call for an evaluation or by the request of the board. This is not always on a biennial time frame. This change aligns committee activity and bylaws.

**PASSED BY THE BOARD TO BE VOTED ON BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE JANUARY REGULAR MEETING**

8. **Strategic Planning, Heidi Makowski – No Report**

9. **Technology, Barb Engen – Reporting**

- Conducted a test of the new TV and audio system. Concluded that the necessary font size for the people in the back of the room to see presentations is 40.

10. **Thrift Shop, Stephanie Hatton-Ward – Reporting**

- Thanksgiving holiday closures will be Wednesday and Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>. For Christmas, the thrift shop will be closed from Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> through Thursday, January 1<sup>st</sup>. The thrift shop will re-open Friday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- The thrift shop needs volunteers for the front, especially cashiers.
- Revenue for October was over \$100,00, which is a first!

11. **Uplift Teens, Barb Slater – No Report**

12. **Uplift Associates, Liz Hendricks – No Report**

#### **Unfinished Business:**

**MOTION** from the Bylaws Committee: I move to amend the Uplift Community Alliance Bylaws; Article 3 Membership to read:

#### **Article 3. Membership**

##### **Section 3.01. Eligibility**

Membership in the Organization is open, without discrimination, to all individuals who support its mission and meet the requirements established herein.

##### **Section 3.02. Classes of Membership**

The Organization shall have **voting** and **nonvoting** members, as defined by these Bylaws or as otherwise determined by the Board of Directors.

##### **Section 3.03. Membership Obligations**

All members shall comply with the following **requirements, responsibilities, and standards** of membership:

- **Requirements:**
  - . Payment of annual dues as established by the Board; and
  - . Compliance with the Organization's Bylaws, policies, and standing rules.
- **Responsibilities:**
  - . Support the mission, values, and activities of the Organization.
- **Standards:**
  - . Uphold the positive image and reputation of the Organization; and

- . Treat clients, customers, partners, employees, members, and volunteers with respect and courtesy.

**Section 3.04. Denial or Termination of Membership**

The Board of Directors reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to:

1. **Deny membership** to any applicant who has demonstrated a disregard, unwillingness, or inability to comply with the requirements, responsibilities, or standards of membership; and
2. **Terminate the membership** of any member who, after being given an opportunity to be heard, is found to have failed to comply with such requirements, responsibilities, or standards.

**Rationale:** Establish a clear organization requirement for the payment of membership dues; update and clarify language and grammar; eliminate sections that are not enforceable.

**PASSED**

**MOTION** from Bylaws Committee: I move to amend Uplift Community Alliance Bylaws to delete in Article 10 Finance, 10.02 Dues and Fees.

**Article 10 Finance.**

~~10.02 Dues and Fees.~~ Annual dues shall be payable on or before March 1 and become delinquent at the close of the April regular meeting.

~~(a) Annual Dues~~

<del>Member</del>	<del>\$50</del>
<del>Uplift Associates Member</del>	<del>\$50</del>
<del>Dual Member</del>	<del>\$50</del>
<del>Uplift Teens Auxiliary Member</del>	<del>\$25</del>

~~(b) Partial Dues for members joining December 1 through April 30 are \$25.~~

~~(c) Dues are waived for members joining May 1 through May 31.~~

~~(d) Dues are refundable only upon a member's failed background check.~~

**Rationale:** Membership requirements (payment of annual dues) are stated in Article 3 Membership; NOTE: if the amendment is approved, the dues will be added to the Uplift Community Alliance Standing Rules.

**PASSED**

**New Business:**

None

**ACTIONS OF THE BOARD**

Board Passed November 13, 2025

No Member Vote Needed

**MOTION:** I move to approve Susan Patterson to serve on the 2025-2026 Bylaws Committee.

**Rationale:** Bylaws Article 8, 8.01 require board approval of committee members.

**Meeting adjourned at 11:10**

  
Carrie Drown, President

  
Jennifer Nicholas, Recording Secretary

**2025-2026 Calendar**

**October 2025**

October 8 Uplift Teens, Office 6:00 pm  
October 13 Board Reports Due  
October 15 Uplift Associates, Office 5:00 pm  
October 16 Board Meeting, Office 9:30 am  
October 20 Regular Meeting, 10:00 am, 9:30 social

**November 2025**

November 10 Board Reports Due  
November 12 Uplift Teens, Office 6:00 pm  
November 13 Board Meeting, Office 9:30 am  
November 17 Regular Meeting, 10:00 am, 9:30 social  
November 19 Uplift Associates, Office 5:00 pm

**December 2025**

No meetings  
December 8 Holiday Party & Luncheon, Carmine's Ristorante  
December 10 Uplift Teens, Office 6:00 pm

**January 2026**

January 14 Uplift Teens, Office 6:00 pm  
January 19 Board Reports Due  
January 21 Uplift Associates, Office 5:00 pm  
January 22 Board Meeting, Office 9:30 am  
January 26 Regular Meeting, 10:00 am, 9:30 social

**February 2026**

February 11 Uplift Teens, Office 6:00 pm  
February 16 Board Reports Due  
February 18 Uplift Associates, Office 5:00 pm  
February 19 Board Meeting, Office 9:30 am  
February 23 Regular Meeting, 10:00 am, 9:30 social

**March 2026**

March 9 Board Reports Due  
March 11 Uplift Teens, Office 6:00 pm  
March 12 Board Meeting, Office 9:30 am  
March 16 Regular Meeting, 10:00 am, 9:30 social  
March 18 Uplift Associates, Office 5:00 pm

**April 2026**

April 8 Uplift Teens, Office 6:00 pm  
April 13 Board Reports Due  
April 15 Uplift Associates, Office 5:00 pm  
April 16 Board Meeting, Office 9:30 am  
April 20 Regular Meeting, 10:00 am, 9:30 social

**May 2026**

May 11 Board Reports Due  
May 14 Joint Board Meeting, Hidden Valley C.C. 10:30 am  
May 18 Annual Meeting & Luncheon University Park Marriott  
May 20 Uplift Associates, Office 5:00 pm