



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

January 26, 2026
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 November 17, 2025, Regular Meeting held at the Uplift Community Alliance office.

PASSED

Officers' Reports

1. **President, Carrie Drown – Reporting**

- The Thrift Shop Manager position remains open.
- The winner of the “Wind Beneath My Wings” monthly award was given to Geri Nicastro.
- A time capsule is being created in commemoration of ULCA’s first year anniversary. All members are invited to submit a written or photographic entry.

2. **President- Elect, Merilynn Kessi – Reporting**

- The garage carpet is being replaced today. Please do not go to the thrift shop today.
- The front door to the office is being replaced. The lock will be re-keyed for the current key.

MOTION: I move to remove the grass from the parking strip in front of the Programs Office and to the left of the Programs Office driveway and replace it with decorative stone at a cost not to exceed \$3,500.

Rationale: This will decrease water use and maintenance.

PASSED

3. **1st VP, Philanthropic Programs, Debbie Smith & Randi Sager– Reporting**

- There are two open positions on the scholarship committee. Please contact Debbie Smith or Geri Mineau if interested.
- Randi Sager reported on the Christmas donations from Eye on the Community to a group home.

MOTION: I move to decrease the scholarship budget by \$15,000.00 and increase the budget for Operation Healthy Teeth by \$50,000.00

RATIONALE: The number of college students is down, and Operation Healthy Teeth will need the additional funds.

PASSED

4. **2nd VP, Community Relations, Geri Mineau – Reporting**

- Annual Appeal has raised over \$66,000 to date from the mail and digital versions. Thanks to Kim Shemwell and Liz Quealy for their efforts on this project. The Appeal will be open until June 1, 2026.
- The MLD fund raising event to benefit Uplift has been scheduled for Thursday, April 16th. The event will have a “Kentucky Derby” theme.

MOTION: I move that the Marketing and Branding budget be increased by \$5,000.00.

RATIONALE: To enable the Marketing and Branding committee to finish its year end projects.

PASSED

5. **3rd VP, Member Services, Linda Stimpson – Reporting**

- The Newsletter will go out today.
- Five (5) business cards are now available to members who want them.
- Nominees for the Uplift Service Award can be submitted for consideration by the Member Services Committee.
- A notice will go out prior to March when dues are payable.

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

- Our return to the community percentage ending December 31, 2025, was almost 80%.
- Budget and expenses are on track through December 2025.

- The approved budget adjustments will increase expenses by \$40,000 and decrease the deficit.

7. **Bylaws, Val Mercer – Reporting**

MOTION: I move to delete the bylaws requirement for Board approval of the chairs as follows:

Article 6 Officers and Their Duties,

Bylaws 6.03 Philanthropic Programs Committees (b) Appoint ~~with Board approval~~, Chairs of the Philanthropic Programs committees: Uplift Band, Book Bank, Brighter Tomorrows, Educational Scholarships, Eye on the Community, Operation Healthy Teeth and Uplift School Kids;

Bylaws 6.04 Community Relations (b) Appoint, ~~with Board approval~~, Chairs of the Community Relations committees; Fund Development, Special Events, Marketing and Branding; and the Donor Relations Administrator

Bylaws 6.05 Member Services Committee (b) Appoint, ~~with Board approval~~, Chairs of the Member Services committees: Events and Education Chair, New Member Orientation Chair, Mentor Program Chair; Corresponding Secretary; Volunteer Hours Recorder; Roster and Dues Administrator; and Newsletter Editor.

Bylaws Article 8 Standing and Special Committees 8.01 Committee Composition. Members of each committee shall be appointed by the Chair ~~with the approval of the Board~~ unless otherwise provided in these bylaws. The composition of the committee shall include those who serve by virtue of office as specified in the bylaws and or members deemed necessary. Ex officio members of committees are voting members of the committee. Elected Standing Committee chairs shall serve on the Board.

Rationale: The Board determined the approval requirements for these positions are not necessary. These positions are appointed by an elected officer or chair.

PASSED BY THE BOARD TO BE VOTED ON BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE FEBRUARY REGULAR MEETING.

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

9. **Technology, Barb Engen – No Report**

10. **Thrift Shop, Trish Oba – Reporting**

- The price of gold is up significantly so jewelry revenue has increased.
- Inventory has started on items that will not be for sale, i.e., Christmas, before June.
- Shifts are open in the thrift shop. Please sign up where possible.
- Thanks to all those who planned the farewell party for Abby.

11. **Uplift Teens, Barb Slater – Reporting**

- The “red” shed is now the delivery site for smaller packages from Amazon, etc. It is called “THE MAIL ROOM” if you are asked.
- The code to open the lock is **6543**.
- A “NO PARKING” sign will soon be posted in front of the shed.

- In the last two months, Uplift Teens have made:
 - 90 gift bags for INN Between
 - 1,000 weekend food kits for several elementary schools
 - 200 backpacks for the Rescue Mission
 - Created several displays in Uplift Thrift
- 40 Valentine’s bags will be made for the Sarah Daft Home

12. Uplift Associates, Trish Oba – Reporting

MOTION: I move to approve the recommendation to fund the Karen S. Johnson Endowment Scholarship at the U of U College of Engineering.

RATIONALE: Since we no longer are holding the Karen S. Johnson Woman of Distinction luncheon, this will be a way to honor her and provide financial help to a student at the school.

PASSED

Explanation: The initial required endowment amount of \$25,000 will be funded by two \$10,000 donations from Bryce Johnson and \$5,000 from an anonymous donor. This will be completed by May 31, 2026. The gift agreement between ULCA and the U of U as well as the criteria for candidate selection is currently in process. The actual scholarship funds will be created from the interest generated from the \$25,000 endowment. In future years, the Associates will budget a contribution to the scholarship fund.

Unfinished Business:

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

New Business:

ACTIONS OF THE BOARD
Board Passed January 22, 2026
No Member Vote Need

MOTION: (From Philanthropic Programs Committee)
I move to change the name of Associates EOC (refugee and St Vincents) to Associates St. Vincents and Associates Refugee Connection.

RATIONALE: There has been confusion between Eye on the Community and Associates Eye on the Community. This will assist the treasurer to correctly designate the correct billing.

MOTION: (From Finance Committee) I move to engage Tanner and Company to prepare our annual audited financial statements and related filings for a 3-year period beginning with the 2025 fiscal year ending May 31, 2026.

RATIONALE: To take advantage of more favorable terms for the engagement.

MOTION: (From the Bylaws Committee) I move to adopt the revised Document Retention Policy.

RATIONALE: The references to and requirements of National Assistance League are deleted.

MOTION: (From Bylaws Committee) I move that the position of Uplift Teens Auxiliary Chair be removed as a voting member of the Board and that the First Vice President, Philanthropic Programs, be appointed by the Board to be the liaison representing the Uplift Teens Auxiliary.

RATIONALE: The oversight of the Uplift Teens Auxiliary and its philanthropic projects can be managed by the Vice President Philanthropic Programs that has responsibility over of all the organization's programs and projects. The Uplift Teens Auxiliary Chair, appointed by the VP with Board approval, will chair the auxiliary and be a member of the Philanthropic Programs Committee. The Vice President Philanthropic Programs and member of the Board shall serve as the voting representative for the Uplift Teens Auxiliary.

MOTION: (From Uplift Associates) I move to establish an Associates Scholarship Committee of three (3) to five (5) members to manage the gift agreement with the U of U College of Engineering.

RATIONALE: To ensure that appropriate protocol is followed.

Meeting adjourned at 11:24

Carrie Drown, President

Jennifer Nicholas, Recording Secretary

2025-2026 Calendar

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