

**SPIRIT OF GUEMES
BOARD MEEETING MINUTES
January 8, 2026**

In attendance (everyone online): Leslie, Julie, Terri, Donna, David, Jon, Anne, Jo Anne

Guest Jen Whitman

Minutes from December 11, 2025 approved

Purple Conversation Series

Jen Whitman presented proposed topics and tentative schedule for a series of Purple Conversations to be hosted by Spirit of Guemes and facilitated by the Whitmans. The topics were wholeheartedly approved by the board and the schedule was revised to accommodate other events, holidays, etc. The plan is as follows:

- Sunday, January 18 at 11:00 GICC and SOG Board Conversation
- Sunday, February 7 at 2:00 pm Caring for Our Inner Life: Spirituality
- Saturday, March 1 at 11:00 am Caring for Our Community: Volunteerism
- Saturday, April 25 at 2:00 pm Caring for Our Planet: Environmentalism
- Saturday, May 9 at 2:00 pm Caring for Ourselves: Health
- Sunday, June 7 at 11:00 am Caring for Each Other: Immigration
- Sunday, July 5 at 11:00 am Caring for Our Country: Patriotism

Julie will send a specific invitation to church folks for the January 18 conversation. Leslie will send schedule to GICCA for calendar. Jen will create a flyer that can be posted at the community hall, library, ferry terminal, etc. Jen left the meeting after this discussion.

Status of PNC-UCC Funds

Annie reported that she has provided materials describing Spirit of Guemes purpose and activities the church council. They will meet January 28 to make decisions regarding the distribution of funds totaling \$10,000.

Website Update

Leslie met with Cody who is willing to help with website development. She now knows what needs to happen next but hasn't had time to follow-up yet.

Winter Solstice and New Year Event

Unfortunately, the in-person event was cancelled due to concerns about the spread of Covid and other respiratory illnesses on the island. Gratitude was expressed for the

preparation that had gone into planning the gathering and the care shown by deciding to cancel the in-person event. Materials that Jon and Terri had compiled for the event were made available to those who requested and Lisa Charnock offered to distribute materials to the GICCA list of approximately 500 individuals.

SOG Corporate Status and Plan for 501c3

Leslie suggested we might talk to Bill Van Vlack about the GIHS application and his recent experiences applying for 5013 status for GIHS. If we are going to apply for grants, we'll need a 501c3 to qualify for funds that GICC is not eligible for. We've assumed to date that we could use the GICC 501c3 as our umbrella similar to the GIHS with the library (until GIHS recently received its own). However, GICC doesn't have one – they use the PNC-UCC (Pacific North West United Church of Christ) one.

Report from GICC Council

- Sale of the park model has not been completed yet.
- GICC has received donations toward the cost of replacing the roof and heating system.
- The building is being used by ever more people.
- Soup-to-go is back in operation after the holiday break.
- There has been a discussion about art displays, including the possible need for review prior to opening.
- The conference minister is leaving in the spring.