Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:12 P.M. All members were present.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the December 9, 2021 meeting made by Patti Crispino; seconded by Ira Munet; Carried unanimously.

The Chair noted this is a special election meeting called at the request of committee member Michael Shulman to discuss the possible impact of omicron on the election. Mr. Shulman presented his concerns. To address these concerns he suggested: waiving petition requirements; allowing digital signatures; instituting electronic voting; and extending the petitioning period.

The Chair ruled the request to discuss electronic voting was beyond the scope of the agenda. Norm Scott challenged the ruling of the chair. The challenge was defeated, five ayes, eight nays. The ruling of the Chair was upheld.

Counsel Beth Norton noted waiving petition requirements would constitute a violation of Article 4 (Officers) and Article 5 (Executive Board) of the UFT Constitution. Based on this information, the Chair ruled the election committee does not have the authority to waive the petition requirement.

Motion: To extend the petition period within the guidelines set by the UFT Constitution made by Michael Shulman; seconded by Robert Greenberg; Defeated five ayes, eight nays.

Motion: To allow digital signatures on petitions made by Michael Shulman; seconded by Robert Greenberg. Defeated three ayes, eight nays, two abstentions.

(Submitted by Joseph Colletti, Special Representative for Educational Programs)