

Policy on the Display of Banners / Adopted February 20, 2024

Banners on the outside and inside of the building are an effective way to publicize the Society's stand on moral issues and public events. And, displayed banners are assumed to represent statements and activities of the Membership.

To increase the visibility and power of the positions of the Society, the Senior Minister (or delegate) is authorized and encouraged to create and display banners that reflect statements of witness and other stands voted on by the Membership.

When the Membership has not had the opportunity to vote on an issue, the Senior Minister (or delegate) is authorized and encouraged to create and display banners that are reasonably likely to represent the feelings of the Membership. However, if a formal vote on the banner's topic has not occurred, the display of the banner will be announced a week before its unveiling. The announcement may be in the weekly newsletter, a special electronic or postal mailing, or other written method that reaches out to all members. The announcement will mention that people who do not think the banner correctly reflects their personal beliefs are invited to contact the Senior Minister (or delegate). This mention should be low key and permissive. If more than ten Members express discomfort with the banner, its display will be postponed and the issue involved referred to the Board of Trustees who will then determine whether a Special Meeting of the Membership should be held to vote on the issue. No banner will be displayed on a disputed issue until the Membership has voted to affirm its statement.

The Senior Minister (or delegate) is further authorized and encouraged to display banners publicizing special community events. These banners are meant to invite people to participate. Examples of such special event banners are announcements of the Holiday Faire and the Blessing of the Animals.