

First Parish Cambridge
Governing Board Minutes
August 17, 2021, 7-9 pm
(Virtual meeting via Zoom)

Present: Governing Board Members:

Jan Puibello, Chair	Jane Stabile, Member at Large
Sylvia Wheeler, Vice-Chair	Rashid Shaikh, Governance Advisory Committee
Carolyn White, Clerk	Reverend Adam Dyer, Lead Minister
Cade Murray, Treasurer	Carol Lewis, Director of Administration
Julia Gallogly, Member at Large	Mandy Neff, Director of Lifespan Faith Development
Tod Hibbard, Member at Large	

Regrets:

Gloria Korsman, Past Board Chair	
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The meeting was opened by Cade Murray with a chalice lighting and check-in question.

Consent Agenda:

2021.07.20 Governing Board Minutes

Minister's Report - August 2021

Administrator's Report - August 2021

Lifespan Faith Development Report – August 2021

Copy of Lifespan Faith Development Report 2021-22 (slides)

Living Our Spirituality (LOS) Team Report to governing Board, August 2021

Notes related to Consent Agenda:

Carol Lewis and Cade Murray mentioned that Pledges are behind expectations for this time of year.

The Consent Agenda was accepted.

FPC Board Agenda

Further Discussion of Lifespan Faith Development program: Mandy Neff

The goal is to present programs that will help rebuild connections and nurture each other as we come back together; it is suggested to use a framework of flexibility this coming year and to understand that it is a time of experimenting and exploring in this rapidly changing time. Some things will work and others will not but we will learn from it.

In discussions with families, the following were mentioned most frequently as important:

Family and Friends; Building Community; Racial Equity; the 8th Principle; the Beloved Community; Spiritual diversity; Space and Time to honor each person's experience and to slow down; Nature's importance now, more than ever.

As a result, there will be Sunday afternoon programs for all age groups with outdoor activities.

Cambridge Common has been reserved for 3 Sundays in September.

Children's age-based groups will cease for now and shift to full congregation programs. This is not a permanent decision.

OWL: this program can only meet "in-person" but, in development, is a virtual program: "Taking Flight".

For all programming, we will take the most conservative approach to congregational policy.

Soul Matters will continue with 3 groups starting in the fall and more to start in January, allowing new people to join mid-year.

It is hoped to focus on programming for 18-23 year olds.

Reopening updates: Jan Puibello, Jane Stabile, and Governing Board

Messaging is important and safety is foremost. From the survey developed by the "R" team (Re-imagining, Recommitting, Renewing, Re-connecting...Team rather than Re-Opening), people want concrete responses. A message for the Congregation will outline the planned framework for the coming months that will evolve according to public health metrics.

- No organized in-person activities in the church except for planned LiveStreamed worship service preparation.
- Masks will be required for groups meeting in-person (i.e. someone's home) If a member is not comfortable with in-person, the meeting will be held virtually.
- Services will be held virtually and to transition to Live Streaming in September.
- Cambridge Commons has been reserved for 3 weekends in September(12th,19th, 26th) for family activities. There will be no sharing of food.

Rev. Adam emphasized the wish to reflect the positive ways of moving forward together. It will be different; a new way of being in relation with each other while being ever mindful of the risks of Covid-19 transmission.

Sept 12: "Homecoming". This will be Live Streamed from the Barn Room.

Sept 19: the Worship service will be a pre-recorded Tribute to Jonathan Barnhart, Music Director, who is retiring after 25 years of service.

Carol Lewis located a useful opening plan chart from the First UU church of St Louis, color-coded, based on public health metrics.

Development Team/fundraising update: Tod Hibbard

There are 3 sources for the fundraising effort toward the Restoration and Improvement Project:

- \$1 million dollars from the Endowment fund. This requires a positive recommendation from the Investment Committee (Tim Warren) A Q and A meeting in September for the Congregation was suggested to be followed in October by a Congregational vote. According to the By-Laws, a 40% quorum is required. 2 weeks advance notice; additionally, it was suggested to have a Parliamentarian and a Moderator.

- Special gifts from institutions and individuals

- Grants

Sylvia Wheeler, working with a graphic design company, presented an online brochure including a history insert that will be used as introductory pieces to those we contact. Rev Adam suggested it might be worthwhile to get an estimate for a printed version.

In August, Board members and interested congregants participated in a fundraising training meeting with Grants Consultant Tracy Sopchak (NextStep Nonprofit).

There was discussion about acknowledging donors.

Rentals: Carol Lewis

As Director of Administration, Carol asked for guidance on requests from the long-term Renters. It was suggested that we should set the Covid-19 guidelines for all rental groups.

At the next Governing Board meeting on Tuesday, September 21st at 7PM, Carolyn White will have the Opening Words and light the chalice.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn White, Clerk

Related Documents:

Documents listed in Consent Agenda (see above)

FPC Agenda for August 17, 2021

Brochure: Restoration and Improvement Project: "Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow"

History Insert for Restoration and Improvement Project: "Preserving a Shared Legacy "

Approved by the Governing Board on September 21, 2021

Carolyn White, Clerk