

First Parish Cambridge
Governing Board Minutes
September 21, 2021, 7-9 pm
(Virtual meeting via Zoom)

Present: Governing Board Members:

Sylvia Wheeler, Vice-Chair	Tod Hibbard, Member at Large
Cade Murray, Treasurer	Grace Hall, Governance Advisory Committee (GAC)
Carolyn White, Clerk	Carol Lewis, Director of Administration
Julia Gallogly, Member at Large	Mandy Neff, Dir. of Lifespan Faith Development

Regrets:

Gloria Korsman, Past Board Chair	Jan Puibello, Chair
Jane Stabile, Member at Large	

The meeting was opened by Sylvia Wheeler with a chalice lighting and check-in question.

Consent Agenda:

2021 08 17 Governing Board Minutes

2021 09 02 Special Meeting with Reverend Adam of the Governing Board Minutes

2021 09 08 Special Meeting of the Governing Board Minutes

2021 09 14 Special Meeting with UUA NE Regional Liaison Hilary Allen of the Governing Board Minutes

Reports:

Development Ministry Team – Tod Hibbard

Notes from Sunday Small Group Discussions on 2021 09 21 – Sylvia, Jan, Carolyn

Comments:

Carol has finished the final draft of the Financial Report. She will send it later. She mentioned that Phoebe will be returning to the Cambridge area and will be happy to assist again in the office. The Consent Agenda was accepted.

**FPC Board Agenda
UPDATE on Plans for Sept/Oct**

Worship & Sunday Event Plans

Update on Lifespan Faith Formation Activities

Mandy Neff mentioned that many church congregations are struggling with their LRE due to the continuing restrictions due to COVID-19. Steadiness, community and compassion will see us through. Also, Pastoral care is needed so that others can stay steady.

For Worship, there can be a variety of offerings:

- Guest Ministers and Chat;
 - Incorporate Soul Matter theme at the beginning of each month;
 - Attend via ZOOM other churches UU churches as was done with North Church in Andover, MA.
 - Invite Past First Parish interns to worship
 - Coordinated visits to other houses of worship
 - Our Community Partners: Sanctuary Boston, Cambridge Minyan, Women's Group, Y2Y
- These are just some of the creative possibilities to reach out into the community but also to work internally: Circle Worship; weekly chalice lighters. People have been very generous.

R-Team & Volunteer Central Ideas

It was suggested that the "R" Team could help support the Staff with a "Volunteer Central". A description of tasks will be useful. Breeze, our web-based church management software, could support the scheduling and the volunteer sign-up.

Update on Pastoral Care Team

This is an urgent need. The Board is exploring various options in addition to the Pastoral Care Team who do receive UU Training program. As the need for Pastoral Care is great, someone mentioned that maybe we could have someone provide some training such as a future Pastoral Care Minister.

Update on Temporary Minister Options

Currently the names of two ministers have been suggested as potential candidates. The UUA New England has a list of ministers who are available or retired.

Development Team Report

Tod Hibbard discussed the details of the Report noting that there will be a meeting on Friday with the 3 companies whose bids we will consider. Sept 24, 2021. David Torrey, our architect and Charles Sullivan from the Cambridge Historic Commission will attend. A decision needs to be made to either proceed now or to delay construction until the spring. This would not be a "pause" but a change in the pace. to allow for some of the changed circumstances this fall. If we proceed, a Congregational vote to use the endowment could be scheduled in early November for a construction start in November or December.

Board Meeting Frequency Near-term

It was decided to meet every 2 weeks for the near future.

Next meetings would be Tuesday, Oct 5 and Oct 19 from 7-9PM.

The Chalice Lighting for Oct 5th will be Carolyn White.

The Chalice Lighting for Oct 19th will be Jane Stabile.

Cade mentioned that Tuesday, Oct 26 is the next Investment Committee meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30PM.

The Executive Board started a Closed Session at 8:31PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn White, Clerk

Approved by the Governing Board on October 19, 2021
Carolyn White, Clerk