

First Parish in Cambridge  
Special Congregational Meeting  
November 14, 2021 (Virtual)  
12:15 p.m.

Lighting of the chalice and a reading were provided by Julia Gallogly, followed by the reading of the Covenant of Right Relations by Jan Puibello, who also announced that the meeting would be moderated by Gloria Korsman, with Mike Wiggins as parliamentarian. Seventy-seven voting members of First Parish attended, comprising well over the 40% quorum (54 members) required for a special withdrawal from the endowment.

Gloria Korsman stated that the only order of business for the meeting would be a vote on a withdrawal from the Endowment Fund toward renovation of the First Parish Meetinghouse and entry.

Cade Murray made the following motion, seconded by Sylvia Wheeler:

*We, the congregation of First Parish in Cambridge, authorize the board to begin Phase One of the Mass Ave Steeple, Tower, and Entrance Project as presented at the October 31 meeting of the congregation. We furthermore authorize the withdrawal of funds from the First Parish endowment to finance Phase One of the project. The amount of the withdrawal shall be the amount necessary to complete Phase One after deducting all other sources of funding, or \$1,500,000, whichever is smaller.*

Tod Hibbard provided a brief review of how this decision was reached. Several other speakers supported the motion, focusing on areas of accessibility, increased usefulness of the renovated Meetinghouse, and the history of how the congregation came up with the plans. There were also several questions concerning how the funds would be paid out (quarterly), timing of the work (November- late spring), use of alternate spaces during the renovation, availability of other funds (a limited amount), and whether our annual withdrawal from the Endowment Fund would be affected by this large withdrawal (no, because of advance planning).

Jane Stabile called the question with a second from Sylvia Wheeler. A 2/3 majority was required for each vote. There was a favorable vote to call the question. The motion was then voted on. It was reported that there were 74 votes in favor. [Note: Review of the data after the meeting showed that there were 77 votes in favor of calling the question and 75 votes in favor of the motion to withdraw funds, with 2 members not voting on the main motion.]

The chalice was extinguished and the meeting ended at 12:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Grace Hall

Certified by  
Carolyn White, Clerk

**Meeting Materials**

Official Board notification of the meeting, October 29, 2021

[Recording of Zoom presentation](#) by Treasurer, Cade Murray on October 31.

[Google Form](#) for questions to the Project Management Team