

First Parish Cambridge Governing Board Minutes
March 15, 2022 7:00-9:00 pm
(Virtual meeting via Zoom)

Present: Governing Board Members:

Jan Puibello, Chair	Tod Hibbard, Member at Large
Sylvia Wheeler, Vice-Chair	Julia Gallogly, Member at Large
Cade Murray, Treasurer	Grace Hall, Governance Advisory Committee
Carolyn White, Clerk	Rev. Adam Dyer, Lead Minister
Gloria Korsman, Past Board Chair	Carol Lewis, Director of Administration
Jane Stabile, Member at Large	Mandy Neff, Dir. of Lifespan Faith Development

The meeting was opened by Carolyn White with a chalice lighting and check-in question. Chalice lighting for April 19: Jane Stabile; May 17th: Sylvia Wheeler; June 21: Julia Gallogly

CONSENT AGENDA:

Financial Reports: February 2022 Balance Sheet; February 2022 Profit and Loss
Administrator – March 2022
Faith Development March 2022
Minister's Report March 2022

A motion was made by Sylvia Wheeler and seconded by Tod Hibbard to accept the Consent Agenda.

The Board Minutes of Feb 22, 2022 were uploaded after the meeting and will be included in the Consent Agenda for April.

Discussion Agenda:

1. Timeline for in person gatherings, worship : Adam/Carol

Carol thinks we can come back in small groups. She recommends we continue to wear masks through April and May. We can have small meetings and gradually make changes as dictated by the ebb and flow of the virus. Rev Adam feels hesitant about moving forward if we might have to move backward again. He would prefer to put things in place that are truly sustainable. Others weighed in and felt that we will probably have to live with this Covid for some time and that we make it known to the congregation that there could be a backslide depending on metrics. We should think about which metrics we will use upon which to base our decisions. Tod suggested a few data sources.

The times when people have gathered has been a joy so there is a real desire to come together in person. It would also offer the opportunity for the congregation to see the building and understand better the need for the renovations proposed.

2. Cleaning up the building

It was suggested that we schedule a Saturday at the end of March for a clean-up day and use Volunteer Central to get people to help spruce up the building. Carol will organize this so that Roland would be present. We are at capacity for room space but there are ways to move things around to create different and more space.

3. Discussion re congregational meeting 3/13:

On Sunday March 13 at 4PM, there was a Congregational Meeting to explain current plans and issues concerning the future renovation of the meetinghouse. It seems that people were very appreciative, supportive and excited about the plans and welcomed being informed. There was no criticism or controversy. Jan mentioned that people appreciated the caution

and thoughtfulness going into the planning. Jan thanked the Project Development Team again for their hard work and diligence. Members of the Board on the Team are Sylvia Wheeler, Tod Hibbard and Cade Murray.

4. Creative thinking about space: Cade/Carol 8:10-8:25

Cade was supportive of Carol's idea that there are spaces that could be created if we move things around. Also, how can we create spaces and be available to the community with rental space. It would be a good time to sit down with the staff, the Board and renters to talk about what is needed. Some church meetings could be held virtually to free up space for others.

One urgent matter is that Rev Adam does not have an office due to the water damage. His meeting space needs to be accessible, private and with natural light. Other spaces can be used for meetings but which might not be ADA accessible. Mandy mentioned that her Faith Development is supply-heavy which requires a locked space. The nursery is another space with specific needs.

Julia offered to work with the Staff on defining their needs. Sylvia also suggested that this is in the professional repertoire of Jeff Lussier, the Owner Project Manager. Mandy mentioned having the input and perspective from a congregant with children. Jan thanked Julia for volunteering.

5. Request for co-sponsorship from Drumm and future requests: Jan 8:25-8:35

The Racial Equity Team requested that our congregation be a sponsor for an event that DRUUM will be having on May 4th. They have asked for \$500. Cade asked that we defer until the Finance Committee has had a chance to look at the end of the 3rd Quarter figures and could inform the Board about the feasibility of this request and potential future requests. It would then be up to the Board to make a final decision and not the Finance Committee. Rev Adam requested that if the Board makes a donation to Drumm that it be intentional and made in memory of Mathew P. Taylor who died in December 2022. He served as Vice President on the DRUUM Steering Committee.

6. Board Participation in worship: Jan 8:35-8:40

Board participation in worship is requested; for the Welcome and for the Covenant, in English and in Spanish. It was suggested that we set up a rotation just as we do for the Chalice and Check-in of our meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 for everyone except the Executive Board.

7. Executive Session: 8:40-9 pm

Rev Adam attended the Executive Session .

The Executive Session adjourned at 9:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn White, Clerk

Approved by the Governing Board on April 19, 2022
Carolyn White, Clerk