

First Parish Cambridge Special Meeting with Rev Robert Hardies
July 28, 2022 7:00-9:00 pm
(Virtual meeting via Zoom)

Present: Governing Board Members:

Sylvia Wheeler, Chair	Valerie Fullum, Member at Large
Cade Murray, Vice-Chair –left 7:30pm	Carol Lewis , Director of Administration
Lindsay Lucke, Treasurer	Guest: Rev Dr. Robert M. Hardies
Carolyn White, Clerk	Guest: Eileen Sullivan
Jane Stabile, Member at Large	
Tod Hibbard, Member at Large	ABSENT: Jan Puibello, Past Board Chair

Agenda

Chalice Lighting - Sylvia Wheeler

Welcome to Rev. Dr. Rob Hardies and Introductions

Group Discussion

Consideration of Proposed Agreement – Executive Session (voting members)

Note: **Chalice lighting/check-in rotation** –Aug 2: Carolyn.

- Chalice: lighting and Check-in: Sylvia opened the meeting at 7:04pm and read a piece by Rev. Rod Richards of San Luis Obispo.

- Welcome to Reverend Dr. Robert M, Hardies and Introductions:

The Board introduced ourselves and then Rev. Hardies spoke about his background.

Currently, he is serving as Consulting Minister at the UU Society of Martha's Vineyard. As of Sept 1, that congregation has called a new minister (Rev. Janet Newton) so he is looking to "serve congregations in an interim or short-term consulting capacity". (from his letter to FPC)

The Contract Minister Hiring Team, in advance of this meeting, interviewed Rev Hardies and recommended him for the Contract Senior Manager position. It was their conclusion after considering other candidates, that Rev. Hardies offered the skill and background that corresponded well to our congregational needs and wishes. He was invited to meet with the Board.

Since early spring, Cade has held meetings with the Staff Advisory Committee to work on the ministry positions as well as the Director of Religious Education (DRE) position. The Contract Minister Hiring Team (Cade Murray, Charlene Galarneau, Rashid Shaikh) helped with seeking candidates and Rev Hardies was one of a few who contacted First Parish. In the meantime, Eileen Sullivan and Maria Altamore began working on a ministerial contract for this transition period.

- Group Discussion

The Board asked questions about Rev. Hardies 20-year experience at All Souls Church in Washington, DC and his current year as Consulting Minister on Martha's Vineyard.

Rev Hardies will be leading a pilgrimage to Camino de Santiago in September thus he would like to start earlier, in mid to late August. Rev Hardies departed the Zoom at 8:20PM. Eileen Sullivan joined the Zoom at 8:30PM to give us information about the work on a potential contract with Rev. Hardies.

- Consideration of Proposed Agreement – Executive Session (voting members)

After discussion, the following Motion was made by Sylvia Wheeler and seconded by Jane Stabile:

“We vote to make an offer to Rev. Dr. Robert M. Hardies according to the contract that has been negotiated and if any substantial changes are made would be referenced back to the board and subject to a background check according to our personnel policy. “

All were in favor. No abstentions.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn White, Clerk

Approved by the Governing Board on August 16, 2022
Carolyn White, Clerk

Meeting Materials:

Proposal Letter from Rev. Dr. Robert M. Hardies addressed to FCP, June 21, 2022
Curriculum Vitae of Rev. Dr. Robert M. Hardies