

First Parish Cambridge Governing Board Minutes

May 16, 2023, Time 7:00-9:00PM

(Virtual meeting via Zoom)

Present: Governing Board Members 2022-23

Sylvia Wheeler, Chair	Valerie Fullum, Member at Large
<i>Cade Murray, Vice-Chair Absent</i>	Jan Puibello, Past Board Chair
Lindsay Lucke, Treasurer	Rev. Robert H. Hardies, Contract Minister 2022-23
Carolyn White, Clerk	Carol Lewis, Director of Administration
Jane Stabile, Member at Large	Rashid Shaikh, Governance Advisory Committee
Tod Hibbard, Member at Large	

Guest(s): Rich Lawson, Patrick Sullivan

Note: Chalice lighting/check-in monthly rotation –2023 June:Lindsay/ (Jan is a substitute as needed).

Chalice Lighting and Check-in

The meeting was opened by Valerie Fullum with a chalice lighting and check-in question about how we welcome newcomers; what experience did you have as a newcomer and any experiences in your life that has shaped your greeting and welcoming way?

Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda included ratification of the online Executive committee votes of approval for new members in 2022-23. Tod Hibbard, seconded by Jane Stabile, made a **motion** to accept the Consent Agenda. All in favor. No Abstentions.

Approval of the 2023-24 Draft Budget – Tod Hibbard and Carol Lewis

After discussion and questions, Jane Stabile, seconded by Lindsay Lucke, made a **Motion** to approve the draft budget as presented. All in favor. No abstentions.

Debrief of Annual Planning Session on Saturday, May 6, 2023 – see Minutes and Brainstorming Notes

The Board appreciated the longer meeting time which included lunch and concluded mid-afternoon. It was focused on past accomplishments and future plans. The Board decided on 3 top priorities for 2023-24:

1. Ministerial Transition
2. Rebuild Membership Process/Team
3. RE Program Rebuilding

Keith Kron, UUA Transitions Director, joined remotely to explain “Ministerial futures”. He gave an overview of the four options available to us: A. Interim Minister; B. Called Minister; C. Contract Minister; C. Developmental Ministry.

Action Planning Discussions will be in June/July

Much discussion was held involving the Congregation in Ministerial Transition. Rashid mentioned the discernment process to think about what we want and where we want to be in 5-7 years. Choosing a minister presents challenges especially with more ministerial options available.

Annual Meeting Planning – All

The Annual Meeting to be held on June 4th, 2023 at 4PM will take place on ZOOM. We will use Roberts Rules of Order as required by our By-Laws. Mike Wiggins has accepted to be Parliamentarian with Susan Shepherd as Moderator. Members will vote on the Budget and, separately, on the Slate of Candidates. It was agreed that we will provide an overview of the ministerial options but not have a discussion. A separate meeting will be organized for that.

The agenda will include:

- An overview of the 2022-23 Accomplishments and the Board's Priorities for 2023-24
- Approval of the Proposed Budget
- Election of the Proposed Slate of Candidates.
 Chair: Cade Murray
 Vice-Chair: Tod Hibbard
 Clerk: Rich Lawson
 Members at Large: Patrick Sullivan (2 yr term);
 Nina Lytton (1 yr term replacing Tod Hibbard); Jane Stabile (second 2 yr term)
Continuing Governing Board Members:
 Past Chair: Sylvia Wheeler (non-voting, ex-officio 1 year term)
 Treasurer: Lindsay Lucke (year 2 of 2-year term; eligible for second 2-year term)

Building Project Update – Sylvia Wheeler & Carol Lewis

Carol noted that the scaffolding is up. Our main entrance will eventually be closed off but it is accessible for now. We are waiting for the Building Permit which will be available soon after which work can begin. The paint color has been approved by the Cambridge Historical Society (Charles Sullivan). The community refrigerator will be removed for the summer. It will be re-evaluated in the fall if it is put back in place in front of our church although construction might hinder that. Carol Lewis mentioned that it gets a lot of use.

Tod thanked Sylvia for all her hard work this past year. All agreed!

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00PM .

Respectfully submitted,
 Carolyn White, Clerk

Carolyn White

Approved by the Governing Board on June 27, 2023
 Carolyn White, Clerk

Meeting Materials

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes of Board Meeting April 18, 2023
- Approval of Executive Committee Actions – New members
- Administrator Report – May 2023
- RE and Pastoral Care Report - May 2023
- Minister's Report May 2023

Other Materials:

- May 16 Draft Agenda
- May 6, 2023, Board Planning Meeting Minutes
- Board Planning Retreat – Barnstorming notes
- FY24 Final Budget proposal