

Church Board Minutes: October 17, 2021

Present: Meighan Pritchard (pastor), Patsy (Treasurer), Dave Kidder, Sam Rennebohm, Louise Morehead, Cora Trujillo (moderator)

Meighan reported on her Sabbatical time. Her plan was to travel, attend workshops related to starting a farm church and a spiritual retreat. Due to COVID and helping her mother move from her home of 46 years to Aljoya retirement facility, those plans did not happen. She still felt that the sabbatical was a gift because she got to focus on getting her mother settled and enjoyed being on the farm and working in her garden. Her house is progressing slowly and not ready to move into yet. The sabbatical fund has a remaining balance of \$4305. The sabbatical planning team is proposing that we use some of it to pay Amara for the work she did preparing the Oct 3rd worship service (not part of her original contract) and save the remainder for Meighan to go to Iona for a spiritual retreat next summer.

Treasurer's report: (Patsy)

We are a quarter of the way through the year. Both year-to-date income and expenses are slightly under 25% of the budget. Income for the month is slightly less than expenses, but year-to-date income is slightly greater than year-to-date expenses. Facility use income is under budget. Building expenses are also under budget.

Hybrid worship project with a budget of \$2,000 now appears under Worship & Music.

Trustees report (Dave):

The rental contract for Be:Seattle is up for renewal and under review by the Trustees.

The COVID Protocol for in-person worship in the building was discussed. There was some concern with the wording "recommended" instead of "required" for vaccinations but the current policy is:

It is recommended Prospect church attendees be fully vaccinated.

Regardless of vaccination status, a mask covering the mouth and nose is required when inside the church.

Sign in on entering the building.

Stay home if you have any symptoms of illness.

Maintain 6' of social distance between households.

The following items were addressed as needed to be ready for the Nov 7 service:

1. The elevator is working. The door has been repaired and it is being inspected this week.
2. The ethernet cable is working
3. The mixer, the camera, the laptop in the balcony, and the two iPhones (used as cameras) are all working.
4. HVAC (ventilation system) at an acceptable level for us to conduct in-building worship
5. Seating instructions to promote social distancing. The Trustees will work on the implementation of seating between now and the scheduled work party on November 6th.
6. Covid policy is in place. The website has been updated with COVID policy notice.

Music Director reducing to 1/2 time: Kia has announced she would like to reduce her position to 1/2 time. Currently it is a 3/4 time position but has been full time the past 18 months. Cora

asked for ideas as to how to solicit input from the congregation as to next steps with our music program. We will start with a congregational survey.

Meighan's Evaluation and goals: The evaluation was completed last June before her sabbatical and responses from 17 members were overwhelmingly positive. We discussed her future goals which would be combined goals with the congregation. They are summarized as follows:

1. Transition to a quality hybrid (in person combined with ZOOM) worship.
2. Work with the Social and Environmental Justice team to determine our next mission/missions. Themes of anti-racism or environmental justice have come from the SEJT book club but there may be interest in other areas like helping Afghan refugees.
3. Work with Trustees and Church Board to create a plan for use of the church building.

Meighan was asked if her current 1/2-time position gives her enough time to work toward these goals. She answered "no". With the isolation of members brought on by COVID-19, she is starting to make an effort to visit individual members. A discussion ensued about the possibility of increasing her position to 3/4 time. The issue was tabled for further discussion to next month's agenda.

Submitted by Cora Trujillo, moderator