

FPUU PARISH COMMITTEE MINUTES

Thursday, September 12, 2024

The Chalice was lit and our meeting commenced at 7:02pm. Kate read a lovely poem by Wendell Berry about Looking Forward and Remembering Back.

The previous minutes of June 2024 were accepted.

Attendance: Ann Svenson, Erin Splaine, Kate Glennon, Carol Sullivan-Hanley, Jen McGonagle-Dziedzic, and Erica Boyle. Also present were Abby Diamond-Kissiday, Jim Duff, Mary Beaulieu, Cathie McGowan and Jean Shildneck representing Ministerial Search and Finance Committee.

The Search Committee reported that they have been and will continue to host “inquiry meetings” where members can share what they are looking for and pose direct questions. The Committee will share the UUA template that they are following for reaching out to candidates. Part of this involves considerable First Parish information gathering which includes demographics of the town, housing prices, the history and tenure of ministers. Additional information including Annual Reports, budgets, and meeting minutes will also be showcased to provide potential candidates with a full and comprehensive lens of our church and community.

Treasurer’s Report: Erica reported that our current assets are \$63,280.65. This includes Bank Accounts, NEW Operating Checking, Parsonage Escrow, PayPal and Venmo.

Erica also asked the Board to review and be prepared to vote in the near future about some changes in the Minister Benefit Package. In particular, an offer of \$12,000 for a health plan of the minister’s choosing as opposed the UUA plan which is considerably more expensive.

The Board and Committee members provided feedback for the first service. We all agreed that it was good to be back and connect once more.

There was a review of our successful Parish Committee retreat on August 17, 2024. The “takeaways” included, but were not limited to Religious Education, Fellowship and more clarity within organizational systems.

Religious Education is reorganizing with new and former members and a teacher has been found and interviewed by Erica. Carol will review the UUA curricula options and be available as a resource.

Staffing: Carol will reach out to choir members to participate in the search for a new Music Director. She will provide the current job description and as for additional feedback from members. Ann, Kate, Erica, and Erin will draft ministerial responsibilities as systems begin to change.

Services/Programming: The priorities were services, RE, fellowship and caring and concerns.

Erin looks forward to connecting with members regarding their feedback about services and what they have missed and what they want back since Pam’s departure.

RE will have a new teacher and Supportive committee.

We will reach out to members for events of fellowship. The idea of a Sunday afternoon nature walk/hike on one of Scituate's many trails was discussed. Carol will reach out to naturalist, Jane McGuinness.

Dianne Jordan has offered to help with Cares and Concerns.

Adjournment: 9:05pm

The next Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 10th at 7:00pm.

