

## OPERATIONS COUNCIL MINUTES Final

March 15, 2022  
Via Zoom online

Attending via Zoom: Susan Bartlett, Laurel Farnsworth, Jud Leonard, Karen Bottar, Wayne Everett, Eric Haas, Chris Krebs (BOT), Erin Splaine, Amanda Graff, Heather Beasley Doyle, Linda Ross (asst clerk)

Called to order 7:00 p.m.

### **Invocation/Chalice Lighting/Reading – Amanda**

#### **Covenant**

As we, the members of this Council and staff, gather to serve this congregation in leadership, we commit to ourselves and to each other: to be present and prepared for the work of this meeting; to listen well and contribute respectfully; to balance both our short and long-term visions with fiscal responsibility; to support the decisions of the Council; to uphold the democratic process; and to lead with goodwill and faith in the work we can accomplish together.

#### **Approvals:**

- Laurel moved and Jud seconded that the February minutes be approved. Unanimous approval, motion passed.
- The Rainbow Umbrella Team has requested a special collection for March 27 Transgender Day of Visibility service. There was discussion of the issue; question about Social Action committee involvement. Laurel moves to approve, Eric seconded, unanimous approval, motion passed.
- By email
  - February 23 – Susan sent an email with questions from the ABD about holding in-person pledge events. The email from ABD stated: If unmasking so food and drink can be consumed, possible restrictions would be:
    - § Ask all attendees to self-certify that they are vaxed and boosted
    - § Ask people to perform at home COVID test within the 24 hours prior to the party
    - § Limit the number of attendees at any given party to 12 (or 15? Whatever the board thinks) to reduce the likelihood of possible outbreaks.

All agreed that in-person events could be held, with restrictions. Attendees can decide whether to attend based upon their comfort with the restrictions for that event..

- February 23 – Susan sent an email asking whether an indoor social hour could be held after services. People would wear masks; no food or drink. Everyone was in agreement with the proposal.
- March 2 – Susan sent an email asking whether it might be safe to have those speaking from either the pulpit or lectern remove their masks just when

they are speaking. Three responded yes, and Erin was notified of approval, to begin March 20.

## **Staff Update**

Amanda

- Offered Gina Miranda a staff position in the nursery (3 hours/week); Amanda hopes she will accept
- No youth coffeehouse this year due to insufficient interest
- Six youth are bridging
- Trying to recruit some new youth advisors
- Being back in the building is going well for RE; using basement rooms as well as upstairs.
- She is working with the children's RE committee to set the curriculum for next year and recruit new teachers.

Erin

- Lay ministers are having a retreat at FUUSN in the chapel on Saturday; people will be masked
- Working on getting everything organized to leave FUUSN in a good position.

Heather

- Working to bring leadership and staff a trauma workshop to deal with effects of COVID
- Sent out membership survey – 72 responses to date, would like to have at least 100
- Welcoming new member in April – Nathan
- Talking about system for greeters
- Crew is working on a community breakfast.

## **BOT February meeting – Karen**

- Unfortunately, cannot locate her notes from the meeting
- Chris – nothing discussed of significance
- The BOT voted and approved removing restrictions from the Board of Investment restricted funds. Judy Curby, Urban Larson, Karen Bottar will be working on it.

## **Financial - Karen**

- February budget - looking OK, no surprises
- Income shortfall due to no winter fundraiser (services auction).
- February showed a \$2900 annual net income shortfall.
- Forecast budget deficit is \$60,000 for the year.

## **RE FY23 Budget – Amanda**

- Reviewed items in the budget and justifications
  - Will need a new computer for RE staff assistant
  - Money to train OWL teachers

- Karen brought up some concerns with requests based upon actual expenditures
- There is money in a scholarship fund for Coming of Age youth; short discussion of possible use.
- Short discussion of possible places to trim budget.
- Laurel moved to pass the RE budget that Amanda submitted on to the finance committee; Jud seconded; unanimous approval, motion passed.

#### **Membership committee restructuring – Erin**

- Document regarding this issue had been sent with the agenda
- Erin – this will have to go to the BOT, but starting discussion with the Ops Council
- Discussion
  - Strong support from some
  - Creates need for many volunteers – concern about whether there will be enough people.
  - Question about whether it would be possible to institute part(s) of the restructure at a time rather than all at once
  - Suggestion to change the name from “steering committee” to “team”
  - Erin wanted to note that Heather had prepared the document
  - Ops Council supports proposal in principle, enthusiastically

#### **Continue reopening FUUSN building**

- Serving food indoors; ABD would like to serve food and drink in the Parish Hall during the get-together to make the tapestry on March 27 p.m.; those working on the community breakfast on April 10 would like an indoor option
- Lengthy discussion about removing masks in the Parish Hall for food; included some discussion about removing masks in the sanctuary.
  - People who eat indoors should be vaccinated and boosted, and it should be so stated in the announcement for an event. Vaccination status will be on the honor system.
  - Consensus was that breakfast could be indoors.
  - Chris Dame is running the breakfast and should be contacted.
- Question from Amanda about whether two events in April - the Passover Seder and an RE event - can be in person in the Parish Hall, with food served. Consensus was that they could be in person.
- Susan will check to see what ABD had in mind for food and drink for March 27 before a decision is made.

#### **Update: Committee activities**

- Social Action – update on budget and 2019 alternative gift fair – Eric
  - Alternative gift fair funds from 2019 have been sent; documents were located.

- Overall structure of the Social Action committee is still not resolved
- B & G – parking lot update
  - Laurel – they had a very inconclusive meeting with Robert Korff. He indicated that FUUSN is in competition with some people in City Hall who want him to fund remediation of the park across the street, perhaps in perpetuity, and this would impact funds available for a parking lot.
  - Korff has proposed a 5-story apartment building on the site of the old Santander bank.
  - Any shadow that the new building would cast on FUUSN will be questioned.
- General Assembly delegates -Jud
  - He and Bobbie will be delegates in person
  - Julia Huston wants to attend but not be a delegate

**Thank yous** – none.

**Meeting adjourned** 9:00 p.m.