

OPERATIONS COUNCIL MINUTES FINAL

June 21, 2022
Via Zoom online

Attending via Zoom: Susan Bartlett, Laurel Farnsworth, Jud Leonard, Karen Bottar (until 8:05 pm), Wayne Everett, Eric Haas (after 7:15 pm), Hattie Kerwin Derrick (BOT), Linda Ross (asst clerk)

Called to order 7:00 p.m.

Invocation/Chalice Lighting/Reading – Karen

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.

Elect Chair and Vice-Chair

Jud moved to approve Susan and Laurel as chair and vice chair, respectively, by acclamation; Karen seconded; approved

Approvals:

- Karen moved and Jud seconded that the May minutes be approved. Unanimous approval, motion passed.
- Request by Lois Shapiro
 - Lois is proposing a concert to benefit Doctors without Borders in September; question of whether it should go through Social Action first.
 - Karen thought the request was OK, doesn't need to go through Social Action, suggested that proof of vaccination and masks be required
 - Jud – doesn't think Lois' request is for a FUUSN event.
 - Wayne thought masks should be required but not proof of vaccination.
 - Consensus is that concert is OK. Masks required as of now, may change by September.
 - Laurel asked about requirements for the concert for the Pan Mass challenge; the organizer has not been asked to fulfill requirements. Consensus was that they can set their own rules.
- By email – On June 7, Susan circulated the FY 23 budget and then another with minor revisions. Five voted to approve the revised budget; revised budget was approved.

BOT May meeting – Laurel

- BOT thanked Karen Davis and everyone who helped with the interim minister selection committee; Susan, Christine Lookner, Lisa Carbone, Tom Bean for organizing the celebration for Erin;; Dwight Golann and his facilitators for the listening circles.
- Karen Burns will be attending GA virtually as a delegate.
- Erin announced that she was going to Old Ship Church in Hingham as the interim minister.

- Amanda updated what she is doing to get RE ready for the fall. She does not have enough teachers.
- Discussion of starting dates for new DRE and interim minister; both will start August 1.
- Heather is now the Membership Director
- Anne and Heather will be back mid-August
- BOT voted for 27 spaces in the parking lot proposal
- Thanks to all budget drive people
- Not sure if OC or BOT will handle in-boarding for the interim minister and new DRE.
- Now have new permanent DRE
- Long discussion of the 8th principle and whether a vote should be taken at annual meeting or postponed

Financial

Karen – nothing new. FY 22 ended in a positive balance (\$10,500), mostly due to not hiring people.

Staff computers – Susan

- Both Erin and Amanda bought new computers in 2020 with their professional development money.
- Erin says she was told when she started that computers must be purchased from professional development money.
- Susan thinks that staff should be supplied with computers that FUUSN purchases.
- There was a question of whether the computers that they use be given to Erin and Amanda
- Long discussion of above two issues
- Consensus – FUUSN will buy computers for staff; Erin and Amanda will be asked to leave their computers. Purchase policy will be placed into the personnel policies for future reference..

B & G issues

- Status of parking lot expansion - Laurel
 - An attorney has been hired (Laurance Lee of Rosenberg, Freedman and Lee) to represent FUUSN in the parking lot proposal issue.
 - The FUUSN building is under a historic preservation agreement; therefore, the parking proposal must go to the Massachusetts Historic Commission for approval prior to getting a building permit. Laurel indicated that this application should include all possibilities, even if not carried out, so that we only need to go to the commission once. The other possibilities include moving the playground toward the front of the lot, putting in a stairway and door to the basement, installing a solar canopy over the new parking lot. Laurance is going to talk to our architect.
 - Completing the application to the Mass Historic Commission will probably be a joint venture between Laurance and FUUSN people.
 - The permission for Mark Development to use the lot is in a form similar to a lease. The initial draft had a 99 year duration of agreement, which Laurel is not satisfied with.

On-boarding new staff

- Demie, Barbara Schmitt, Karen Davis and Susan had a conversation about this.
- Parisa Parsa will be on vacation the first week in August (she had already planned), then 1 week moving, then here 1 week, then at interim minister training the next week.
- Anne, Fran, and Heather will be around the first week in August.
- Jud is working on a document with important things for Parisa to know.
- Both Parisa and Devin Shmueli should attend the Ops Council meeting in August.
- Hattie suggested having a get-together so new people can meet others

Continuing reopening FUUSN building

- Continue hybrid services in the fall
- Protocols –wait until August to decide
- Wayne - need replacement for Mike Arnott to handle fair trade coffee starting in the fall. Long discussion of how to handle coffee-making.

Update: Committee activities

Ops Council meetings: summer and year round

- Ops Council meetings will continue on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.
 - July meeting – keep on schedule but cancel a week ahead if not needed.
 - August meeting – have social hour or pot luck ahead of meeting, at Laurel's house
- Confirm RE, Finance, B & G chairs
 - Laurel will continue as B & G chair

Thank yous -

Sandy Island - Denise Bousquet and Barbara Schmitt

Erin's celebration – Christine and Saul Lookner, Lisa Carbone

Amanda's celebration – Stephanie St. Pierre and the CRE committee

Ned Leibensperger - for stepping in as moderator at the annual meeting at the last minute .

Meeting adjourned 8:35 p.m.