

**UU Middleboro**  
**Parish Committee (PC) Meeting (virtual)**  
**July 17, 2024, 6:30-8:00 pm**  
**Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/94738645871>**

**Present:** Jeff Giddings, Lois Aldrich, Vi Fairweather, Diane Reed, Stephen Larrett, Jim Bonnar  
**Absent:** Nancy Backus

**Guest:** Alan Melchior

*Meeting called to order by Jeff Giddings at 6:34*

Reading: Jeff Giddings played an excerpt from UUA's *Drive Time Essays* entitled "Transforming Nominating Committees".

Minutes: Minutes from 6/19/24 meeting accepted with recommendation that "Sue Hotchkiss" be changed to "Susan". Lois Aldrich will make change.

Announcements/Updates:

- Reports (distributed in advance): Treasurer, Finance Committee, and Social Justice Team reports were accepted.
- Finance: Final report for FY24 was distributed by Jeff Giddings. PC agreed to move ≈ \$10,000 from checking to replace withdrawals from investments. Treasurer (Stephen Larrett) will determine when to move funds and will inform PC when this happens. A Finance Committee meeting has been scheduled by Bill Howe to discuss and plan for the long term.
- Building and Grounds (B&G):
  - Alan Melchior, on behalf of the B&G Committee, distributed to the PC a draft B&G charter, a B&G project matrix, and a report from the Memorial Garden (a subcommittee of B&G).
  - Priority for discussion at this meeting is the report from the church's insurance company highlighting areas of concern with the building that will require significant investment to repair. Alan has been a primary contact on this matter, and informed PC that it is an evolving situation and that there is a ways to go before B&G can make a recommendation. Overall areas of concern include damage to the portico, steeple, roof and shingles. Gutters need to be cleaned and trees cut. Alan has been in contact with two contractors whose estimates are between \$40,000-50,000 (scaffolding will be needed and increases cost significantly). Once scaffolding is up, we may want to consider doing other work (replacing shingles, etc.). Capital campaign may be needed to obtain funds.

Once all information is received, B&G will present a proposed plan with cost estimates to the Finance Committee, who will make recommendations to the PC on funding and repairs.

- Alan Melchior and Jim Bonnar agreed to act as co-chairs of B&G Committee for now.
- Alan informed PC that he will be reviewing the draft charter for B&G with the B&G Committee.
- Security cameras: Recently, a UU Church in another community was vandalized, incurring significant damage. UU Middleboro needs to install security cameras. JR Pucillo-Dunphy has worked on this in the past. Alan has emailed JR for an update.
- Minister name (Rev. Peter Connolly) on sign on front lawn needs to be replaced with Rev. Beau Rivers. Cost will be \$400 and work will be done by Mike McCarthy. PC approved \$400 to change minister name on sign.
- Peace Pole: Lois Aldrich informed PC that she met with Kevin Quackenbush from the Rotary Club July 16 to determine where to “plant” the Peace Pole. With input from Patty Simon and Bill Howe, it was decided to have the Peace Pole installed at the beginning of the walkway to the parish hall, on the left side. Once a Peace Pole is installed, a dedication ceremony is usually held. The press and other local organizations are usually invited. Lois needs to inform Rotary of the date(s) we are looking at for installation and dedication. Need to also check to see if Rev. Beau Rivers would be interested in attending the dedication. Proposed dates are August 26, 27, or 28 at 3:00 pm. Jeff Giddings will contact Rev. Beau to see if these dates work for her. Lois will contact Mr. Quackenbush to propose the August dates. Congregation will be informed of final dates in UU Updates.
- Mail: Jeff raised the issue that mail has been accumulating in the church mailbox since the church is closed for the summer. Vi Fairweather offered to check mail every other day and put in office.

### Discussion Agenda

- Welcoming new minister: Rev. Beau Rivers’ first day available to congregation will be Wednesday August 21.
  - Public Relations Committee (PR) has put together a bio of Rev. Beau which will be posted on FUUSM website once Rev. Beau has reviewed and approved.
  - We need to determine who from PC will be at FUUSM on August 21 to welcome Rev. Beau and give her a church key. Need to clarify what time she plans to arrive. Lunch?
  - Welcome book being developed.
- PC Annual Retreat is Sunday Aug 25, 2024 at church after service (at 10:00 AM). Rev. Beau will attend.
  - Draft agenda (discussion):
    - Rev. Beau is planning a “color exercise”;
    - Discussion of our vision and this year’s goals, how to prioritize, how to evaluate if we met our goals; hand out current vision statement?

- Committees- how can committees help the PC do its work? What should Committee on Ministry look like? Update on organizational chart and discussions with committees; hand out most recent draft of Vision Statement.
- Food?

**Next PC meeting August 21 @ 6:30 pm** via ZOOM to finalize plans for retreat.

*Meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm*