

# MINUTES OF THE PARISH COMMITTEE MEETING

## October 16, 2024

**Present:** Jeff Giddings, Vi Fairweather, Stephen Larrett, Rev. Beau Rivers, Diane Reed, Nancy Backus, Lois Aldrich, Jim Bonnar

**Guest:** Kelly Lownds

Meeting called to order at 6:40 by Jeff Giddings

Check-in

Opening Words - Rev. Beau Rivers

Minutes from September 18 PC meeting were reviewed and accepted via email prior to tonight's meeting.

Reports: The following Committee reports had been forwarded to PC members prior to the meeting and were accepted:

- Minister Report (includes Worship and Pastoral Care)
- Music Committee and Music Director
- RE
- Social Justice
- Finance (Treasurer, Accountant, Investments)
  - Treasurer Stephen Larrett informed the PC that there are sufficient funds in checking such that we can move the funds we had borrowed from investments in the spring back to investments. PC approved this action.
  - Bank issues are in the process of being resolved, and all current required signatures are up to date.
- Building & Grounds (awaiting report) - Jim Bonnar reported that Alan Melchior has met with people from our insurance company, Church Mutual. Insurance company staff took pictures and will present to adjuster. There is a possibility that we will be able to complete and pay for needed work over a three-year period, but this has not yet been confirmed by Church Mutual.

Action Items from September 18 PC meeting were completed except for the following:

- Vi Fairweather and Rev. Beau will continue to work on organizing the file cabinet.
- After discussions with several of the people involved, Jeff Giddings decided to wait before convening an ad hoc subcommittee for the newsletter (see Discussion items below).

- FUUSM will not be participating in the UUA webinars on pledge drives as we did not have 3 volunteers come forward to participate, as required by UUA. Jeff Giddings will convey this result to the UUA.

UUA Retirement Plan: UUA requires that the PC formally approve changes being made to the UUA Retirement Plan for this year. Currently, only Rev. Beau Rivers and Susan Hotchkiss participate in the plan. Any qualified employee can participate. Stephen commented that the proposed changes are more related to how UUA will manage the plan and will not have an impact on the participants. Motion moved to accept the changes in the plan, seconded, and approved.

Cottage Meetings: Cottage Meetings have been scheduled, and two have occurred. All appears to be going well so far. The main goal of the meetings is for Rev. Beau to get to know the congregation and hear what their concerns, passions, and goals for the church are.

Discussion Items:

- Committees: The PC discussed how we can work better with Committees and how to involve the congregation as we work on developing an organizational structure for the church. The PC intends to hold a Committee Fair in November. Planning will take place by email and Zoom. Jeff Giddings and Rev. Beau will initiate the planning process.
- Newsletter: Continues to be published, and will continue unless Rev. Beau and Val Ortelt, Office Administrator, determine the workload is no longer manageable. Val has stressed that getting the information for the newsletter in a timely manner is critical.  
The PC agreed to further explore transitioning to Breeze Church Software in 2025, which could greatly reduce workload.

Recap—what is your take away from tonight’s meeting?

Closing—reading from Rev. Beau.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Next PC Meeting: November 20, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in Parish Hall.