

**Minutes First U of STL Policy Board Meeting
Monday, April 12, 2021 at 6:30 PM – Via Zoom**

Meeting was called to order by President Margaret Weck at 6:40pm

Members: Emily Colton, Joel Hickmann, Rosemary Johnston-Lawton, Joel Minor, Gene Rubin, Margaret Weck, Kathy Wilke, Steve Wilke - **Absent:** Sarah Francois, Pamela Geppert

Staff: Kim Mason, Lynn Hunt

Council Chair: Lisa Cary

Opening Words - Rosemary Johnston Lawton from *Community Means Strength* by Starhawk

Chalice Lighting - Rosemary Johnston Lawton

Reading of Board Covenant - Gene Rubin

Process Observer Identification - Kathy Wilke

Consent Agenda – Motion to approve by Emily Colton Seconded Steve Wilke Approved

Minutes of March 8, 2021 Meeting

Report of the Minister, Kim Mason

Report of the Administration and Programming, Lynn Hunt

Report of the Interim Director of Religious Education, Lily Rappaport

Report of the Board President, Margaret Weck

Report of the Church Council Chair, Lisa Cary

Guests: Sue Ashwell and Kay Dusenbery - Canvass Co-Chairs

Business

Canvass Team

Sue Ashwell and Kay Dusenbery presented a list of members who have not pledged at this time. Board members divided up the list of names and agreed to contact people to complete the canvass process. The Board thanked Sue and Kay for all of their hard work on a well run canvass.

Mission Discussion

Board considered feedback on the most recent draft of the new Mission Statement.

“We are a welcoming congregation inspiring lives of loving kindness and integrity by nurturing spirituality, building community, and promoting justice.”

There was some discussion about the word compassion. Loving Kindness was suggested as a substitute. Promoting Justice -- a stronger phrase was suggested - Correcting Injustice or Healing Injustice. There was also discussion about being a Welcoming Congregation.

Final Proposed Rewording to be submitted to congregational vote on May 16:

“We strive to be a welcoming congregation, inspiring lives of loving kindness and integrity by nurturing spirituality, building community, and advancing justice.”

Reports from Board Liaisons

A. Committee on Ministry (Steve Wilke)

Submitted as a report.

B. Personnel Committee (Sarah Francois)

No report

C. Nominations & Leadership Development Committee (Emily Colton)

List of nominations for the annual meeting was submitted as a report. Board expressed their many thanks to the Nominating Committee for their excellent and hard work.

Motion -- Permit Steve Wilke to run for office (Vice President) with 2 years experience on the Board rather than the required 3 years. Motion presented by Gene Rubin - Passed unanimously.

Other updates

A. Staff Recognition Fund Wording

The wording was included in the Board Packet for the March meeting.

Kathy Wilke moved to accept the wording - Emily Colton Seconded -- passed unanimously

B. Covid Task Force

The group is working on cleaning protocols, etc for small groups.

In addition, the plumbing issue needs to be addressed before we can open the building to small groups. This has been communicated to the Facilities Committee.

C. Clark Lecture

Toward Justice was turned down by their prospective speaker. Council has been charged with re-constituting the Clark Lecture committee for 2021 and future years.

D. Fathman & Ross Awards

General discussion on the duties of the committee. Generally the committees have past awardees as members. No volunteers stepped forward. Margaret Weck will ask Sarah Francois and Pam Geppert if they can each chair one committee.

Moving Forward into a Multi-platform Future

A. Hybrid Ministry Task Force

The Task Force submitted a proposal to the UUA for professional assessment on what would be the technology needed for us to stream our services once we are back to meeting in

person. We were selected for the consultation by the team offering the support and we will be a case study for our Region.

\$10,000 - \$12,000 is the current ball-park estimate for equipment, etc costs.

B. Virtual Membership

General discussion about the implications of virtual membership.

Annual Meeting

Board members will be asked to participate in the meeting by making motions, seconds, etc.

Margaret Weck will serve as the moderator.

The Mission statement as a by-law change and the slate of candidates are the only items that will need a congregational vote. The major agenda item of the next Board Meeting on Mon. May 10, will be planning for the May 16 Annual Congregational Meeting.

Check in with Process Observer – No issues

Adjourned at 8:13PM

Next Board meeting Monday, May 10, 2021 at 6:30PM via Zoom

Minutes submitted by Pamela Geppert, Secretary with special thanks to Lynn Hunt and Margaret Weck.