

Parish Committee Minutes

First Parish Unitarian Universalist of Arlington

April 9, 2019

Present: Steve McMullin (Chair), Marie Meteer (Vice Chair), David Klingsberg (Treasurer), Tom Estabrook (Parish Committee Member), Jeff Roberts (Parish Committee Member), Julius Pereli (Parish Committee Member), David Dreyfus (Fincom Chair), Anna Quaadgras (Stewardship Member)

- (1) **Consent agenda.** *The members of the Parish Committee voted 6-0-0* to accept the consent agenda, which consists of the March 12 minutes and financial documents.
- (2) **2018-2019 Finances update.** According to David K, we are tracking on target for this year's budget. There are some things that should be tracked down and he will do that and update us.
- (3) **Ordination of Stevie Carmody.** Stevie Carmody wrote ParCom to request that we vote to recommend to the First Parish annual meeting/congregation that he be ordained to Unitarian Universalist ministry by First Parish. *The members of the Parish Committee voted 6-0-0* to approved the motion 6-0-0 to put the ordination of Stevie Carmody on the warrant and budgeting \$1,500 the ordination ceremony should the congregation vote to go forward. The ordination itself would be in the fall.
- (4) **Annual Meeting Warrant.** *The members of the Parish Committee voted 6-0-0* to approve the warrant for the Annual Meeting (Appendix A).
- (5) **Phone calls about the 2nd Minister Nominating Committee.** The Parish Committee had previously voted that the Nominating Committee contact every member of First Parish to get their recommendations for people to be on the nominating committee and anyone who did not respond to email or announcements in church should be called. Lori pointed out in an email that "during the conversation in January, two people were emphatic that it is important to call every member who does not respond to the earlier forms of outreach (of which there have now been 13). At the time that seemed to me like a lot of work and heavy use of volunteer resources. I now see it as more damaging than that." She asked that ParCom allow the Nominating Team to guide the nominating process. That includes backing off on ParCom's official vote in January that included the mandate to call every member." There was much discussion about whether the electronic outreach had actually reached people (some said they only received one request, other said none). Anne has a list from the recent stewardship calls of who answered and who didn't and will share that with the committee. She also has a list of who should not be contacted due to illness, etc. Julius spoke of the importance of inclusion, pointing to the people who said, at the time of the vote on the second minister, that no one had talked to them about a 2nd minister. Tom Estabrook said he would convey the suggestions and concerns to the committee.

The members of the Parish Committee voted 5-1-0 that we empower the Minister Nominating Committee to choose the means and degree of contacting or members, depending on the situation of the individual members.

- (6) **Report on Stewardship Results.** Anne Quaadgras from the Stewardship Committee provided an in-depth report on the results of this year's stewardship campaign. In summary, we

raised 1.4% over last year (\$657K) however the goal was \$680, so we only reached 97% of goal. There were 288 pledgers, which is same as last year, however the target was 300 so that also fell short.

The detailed summary is provided in Appendix B (attached).

(7) Budget FY20-21. David Dreyfus (Finance Committee) reviewed the proposed FY19-21 Budget. Included is both of the top two goals decided in December; COLA and midpoint salaries for staff. The intern is included with the money coming from the \$26K in the budget already for ministerial support. Given the results of stewardship there are some downward movements, such as \$6,500 for Parcom, rather than \$10,000 (which will cover all ParCom discretionary funding at \$5000 and \$1500 for Stevie Carmody's ordination). The actual documents will be available soon.

Given that there were 3 people absent, the vote on the budget will be at our next meeting, April 23, which is the traditional budget meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Draft minutes submitted by Steve McMullin and Marie Meteer, Parish Committee Chair and Vice Chair
Approved by the Parish Committee April 23, 2019

Upcoming hosts: April 23 Julius, May 14 Jeff, June 11 Tom

Appendix A

FIRST PARISH ANNUAL MEETING

To all members of First Parish Unitarian Universalist of Arlington, Massachusetts:

The Annual Meeting has been called at 12 noon on Sunday, May 19, 2019, at 630 Massachusetts Avenue in Arlington, Massachusetts. Members empowered to vote by our bylaws are asked to decide the following at this meeting:

- I. To receive the reports of the Officers, the Minister, other staff, and the committees and organizations of the church.
- II. To elect First Parish Officers and Standing Committee members. To recognize outgoing volunteer leaders.
- III. To elect members of the Second Minister Search Committee.
- IV. To see if the members will vote to approve First Parish ordaining Stevie K. Carmody to the Unitarian Universalist ministry.
- V. To see if the members will make such appropriations as are recommended by the Parish Committee in a proposed budget for fiscal year 2020.
- VI. To see if the members will authorize expenditures under the control and direction of the Parish Committee, in accordance with the budget adopted.
- VII. To see if the members will authorize the Parish Committee to appoint lay and ministerial delegates to represent First Parish at meetings of the Unitarian Universalist Association and any other organizations requiring representation of the church.
- VIII. To see and act upon any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

By vote of the Parish Committee, April 9, 2019: Steve McMullin (Chair), Marie Meter (Vice-Chair), Lori Kenschaft (Clerk), David Klingsberg (Treasurer), Maggie Carey, Tom Estabrook, Sara Galantowicz, Julius Pereli, and Jeff Roberts.

This notice to all members of First Parish Unitarian Universalist of Arlington, Massachusetts, complies with our bylaws, as amended through May 15, 2016.

By: Lori Kenschaft, First Parish Clerk