

Parish Board 8/6/2018

Attendees: Michele David, Gene T-G, Alice Mark, Charles Sandmel, Janet Britcher, David Cave, Dave Demerjian, Laura Hatfield, Stephen Pratt-Otto, Rev Lisa

Rev Lisa **opened** with “The Great Togetherness”

We **checked in** – we introduced ourselves to Rev Lisa and talked about our hopes for the upcoming church year.

We **approved the minutes** from July.

- Laura reported back that the reports page of the website (where our board minutes are cached) has been accessed 140 times over the year, which isn't much. We agreed to do the 'board corner' in the newsletter – Alice will do that and communicate with Alisa
- Gene reported back on a meeting with Darnisa about DEEP's work over the next year – they are coming to an agreement about what work we will do together. Final meeting is 8/27. Rev Lisa would like to attend.

Charles gave us the **treasurer's report**

- New signatories for church account will be Michele, Charles, Alice and Alisa. Rev Lisa will not be a signatory which is pretty standard. Charles will think about at what level does someone other than Alisa need to sign checks? Or are there checks that need two signatures? Need a policy around that which Charles will work on with finance.
- Karla, Margie and Charles are working on a strategy for planned giving
- We discussed the gas lease – we still need more information on how much money is involved. Charles noted we don't have a policy on what to do with gifts other than cash or security. This is especially complicated with gifts that may not be consistent with our values. Charles and finance will work on a policy around other types of gifts.
- Rentals are doing well – have some multiday rentals coming in. A/C in Dana is a great addition. Rev Lisa will reach out to the person who used to do rentals at Andover Newton to see if there are other tenants looking for space.

Rev Lisa gave her brief **minister's report** (on her first three days of work 😊). We discussed whether she was interested in a “charge” from the board or wants to work on those priorities herself. We discussed spending some time getting to know the church, meeting with committees, and then thinking about priorities through a lens of shared leadership. We will revisit this idea in next meetings.

We discussed our **retreat** scheduled for Sat 9/8.

- Can't find room externally – agreed to host at Alice's house
- 8:30 breakfast, 9-2 program. Break for lunch. Alice and Michele will work on food.
- Will do Equity 101 with Meck and Woullard from the UUA (probably a couple of hours). Gene will finalize this.
- Laura volunteered to lead us in some type of small group ministry – 2 hours
- Gene wants to do some type of “non-words” activity. Art, music, breathwork came up as suggestions

- Margaret Wheatley “turning to one another” came up
- We need a photo!!
- Alice, Gene, and Michelle will work on the final agenda.

Upcoming dates:

- 9/8 retreat
- 9/9 opening Sunday
- 9/10 board meeting
- Need to schedule executive committee meeting before these dates so we can finalize agendas for retreat and for board meeting
- We discussed Rev Lisa’s installation – would likely be run by a committee in the fall/winter. Right now we don’t want to start planning yet but will bring this back in September meeting. Madeline Fine wants to make jewelry and Michele wants to make a stole.

Gene reviewed **planning meeting with DEEP**. Will finalize the agreement 8/27. Discussed community conversations, ways to include families, babysitting/grandparenting. Darnisa is meeting with Laci to plan around families children and youth. We discussed a survey/audit of the congregation around equity – this may also coincide with the UUA’s equity audit. We discussed what success might look like for the DEEP work and whether/what metrics we could use.

We checked out

| Plus | Delta |
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| We pause to let each other speak.... |but still need clarity on groundrules at these meetings about who has the floor |
| Well managed agenda, on time. | |
| Nice intros and welcoming for Rev Lisa | |
| We were all here! | |
| We like the treasurer’s report | |
| Happy that we are meeting in the summer | |

We closed with our usual prayer.