

Church Board Minutes October 18

Present: Meighan, Jan, Cora, John, Consi, Patsy, Louise

Sabbatical Planning: The Lilly grant to cover sabbatical expenses was denied but Meighan will go ahead with her 3 month sabbatical July 1 to September 30. Her goal still is to create a “Farm Church” during that time. We will not have a substitute pastor and will ask the Worship and Music team to plan the services using the standard worship template, or trying new models (an all singing Sunday, a meditation Sunday, a “talking circle”, slideshows etc. We will also need a team to cover pastoral care. Meighan will cut back on her travel plans due to COVID and finances but will apply for a Weter-Roberts grant to cover some of her education. She still wants to do an organic farm school and a spiritual retreat at Holden Village in addition to spending time with family and at home. The sabbatical planning team meets next November 10.

Online Auction for Church Fundraiser: With the preschool fundraiser no longer happening, Cora thought there may be energy to have an online auction as a church fundraiser with members donating services (yard work?), meals, art work etc. Jan will look into appropriate computer software. The auction is tentatively planned for March,

Pastor and Staff Evaluations: We looked at drafts of evaluations created by Cora and the ones used last in 2013. Suggestions were made for tweaking wording. Cora will make some recommended revisions and elicit more feedback by email.

SEJT (Social and Environmental Justice Team) It was hoped someone would step forward to be a chair or facilitator for this team but no one has so Meighan is leading it for now. The “How to Be an Anti-racist” book discussion group is going well, reading and discussing 2 chapters per week with rotating facilitators. Meighan has been exploring the Africatown website and plans to do more digging to see if and how we can support their mission. SEJT is also promoting Be:Seattle, Get out the Vote, Bail Project and links to relevant films.

Reaching Out to Our Community: Cora sent cards to Josephine and Sam Daley and dropped off a gift bag of toys and cookies for the Cataldos. Both were well received. Muriel appreciates delivery of service DVDs. John is willing to contact members who have not been showing up for ZOOM church.

New members?: Meighan mentioned the names of several people who have been active in our community and will plan to ask them if they are interested in becoming members of Prospect.

Trustees report: (See minutes of last Trustees meeting). John has been working with our insurance agent to reduce the church’s insurance costs by going to a “flex plan” which would reduce our liability

coverage, eliminate “unintentional underinsurance”, raise our deductible and save us \$2,000 to \$3,000 per year and still have adequate coverage for our needs. The CB agreed with the Trustees recommendations. We also agreed to extend our contract with the Eritrean congregation that is renting our sanctuary until at least February as we have no plans to resume in person worship until a vaccine is widely distributed.

Gratitude and Generosity Team report: Jan Wood, a Quaker pastor and church consultant will lead a worship service in January with the theme of discovering our individual ministries. After the worship we will be broken up into ZOOM meetings of 4 to 5 to share stories with the goal of Prospect learning about and supporting how we minister to our community.

Financial report (Patsy): We're one quarter of the way through the year. Pledges are on track, loose offering is significantly under budget, and facility use donations are over budget. Expenses are generally as expected. Our year-to-date income is about \$4,000 less than year-to-date expenses. Cash on hand is good.

Pastor's report: Meighan thanked the CB for their donating of a gift certificate to “Grappa” restaurant in honor of Pastor Appreciation Day Oct 11. She was also grateful for the surprise affirmations at the start of the service.

Cora Trujillo

Co-moderator