

The First Church of Christ “Old North” in Marblehead, Inc.

Minutes of the Leadership Board

July 27, 2017

Old North Church Vision Statement

Old North Church is an inclusive Christian Community called to bring to life God’s love and grace by sharing the gospel for this time and place; extending the hospitality Christ showed; embodying God’s love and compassion to those in need; and growing together in our understanding and experience of the Holy Spirit at work in our midst.

The meeting was called to order by Marpa Eager at 7:30. Karla led us in an opening prayer. Those in attendance: Karla, Marcia, Dave, Marpa, Tim, Diane, Maria, Lisa, Janet and guest Nicole Guerin.

We will be setting next meeting’s agenda at the end of this meeting. At the beginning of the next meeting any further agenda item can be added. NOTE: When responding to Leadership Board emails remember to type your name so people know who sent the email. Short discussion of who should run our meetings. Maybe rotate 2 or 3 people who enjoy running meetings. Janet, Clerk, will take minutes although anyone who wants to write up their thoughts is free to do that also.

Should the new moderator run the meetings? Should the outgoing (Marcia) moderator be part of the LB in either an official or unofficial capacity. Tim used the yacht club analogy where former officers sit on the board of trustees for a couple of years after completing their term just to add continuity. All things to think about and hopefully decide on concretely before the end of August when hopefully we will have a new moderator. Every moderator term is different from any other even with common threads. To a certain extent the role is the moderator takes on is dependent on the personality of the moderator and the state of the church at the time. Old and new moderator need to be the link between the old and new model.

With that in mind Marcia will invite Dave Hostetter and Dara van Remoortel to come to our next meeting representing the Nominating Committee to receive the charge to find us a new moderator who can be voted on and installed by the first of September. Anyone with thoughts on who this should be please feel free to contact either Dara or Dave. Janet read the moderator description from the By-Laws. Feeling is this person should be a “seasoned” ONC member, thick skinned, willing to run all church meetings, deal with controversy, direct people to the correct ministry to address concerns, learn Robert’s Rules and use them. Nicole Guerin (OSRT member) suggested a co-moderator model although with our past experience with co-ministers that wasn’t thought to be ideal. She also brought up that we all need to be the

communication between the “way it was” and the “way it will be”. We need to be the cheerleaders of showing that this will be better for everyone in service to the church. Her suggestion would be to run a series of Town Meeting formatted meetings maybe on consecutive Saturday mornings. The message of “this is what we used to do and now this is what we are going to do and this is how it will make serving our church better for you and in turn better for our church”. Marcia reminded us that all five ministries have different concerns and, therefore, have to be handled a little differently.

Speaking of service, Don Morgan sent an email saying “the LB should consider using the current by-laws as a list of responsibilities that need to be accounted for in the new organization and begin mapping them to the various ministries and the LB”. Everyone was on board with that suggestion. Maria reminded us that it took 3 years to get the new hymnals. Change doesn’t come quickly was her advice.

Nicole Guerin volunteered her services in August and Marpa will get back to her on this.

Karla suggested that a good book for us all to read is “Governance and Ministry” by D Hotchkiss.

Janet will ask Dee if she can cover for her taking notes on August 10th.

Marpa, Karla and Dennis tried to connect with Stewardship who felt that Prudential Ministry had enough meetings to deal with this summer that they would like to wait until fall to meeting with LB.

Suggestion that Marpa contact Don Morgan to see if he wants to come to next meeting as he has been working with the office the last couple of years setting up a data base of people.

Agenda for Thursday August 10 meeting:

Nominating

1. Update on any meetings with ministries
2. Schedule all church meeting end of September/beginning of October
3. Talk about “Governance and Ministry”

Karla led us in closing prayer. Meeting was adjourned at 9pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Doyle, Clerk