

The First Church of Christ “Old North” in Marblehead

Minutes of the Leadership Board – May 12, 2022

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.

Leadership Board

The Leadership Board shall set polity and facilitate the execution of congregational priorities for the church. It shepherds the ongoing visioning process and makes decisions and acts within the stated vision and approved budget that are outside the scope of a single ministry. It listens with faith and facilitates communications and coordination within and between ministries, the entire congregation, and the wider community. It conducts ongoing strategic planning for the church. It may task ad hoc teams with specific action in support of its responsibilities. Sub Committees: PPR, Nominating.

The meeting was called to order via Zoom by Betsey H at 7pm. Attending: Betsey, Meg, Roy, Lisa, Maria, James, Lindsay, Sally (Prudential), Blair (Treasurer). Lindsay led us in an opening prayer. The April minutes were written by Janet and sent out by Betsey and will appear in the ebulletin once they are approved.

Note: The next Leadership Board meeting will be on Thursday, June 9, 2022.

Currently, Annual Meeting will be on ZOOM Wednesday June 15th. All reports due in the church office May 15th.

Planning for Annual Meeting –

- Announcement needs to be done and Report needs to be printed by June 5th. Per Lisa, reports have been coming in ahead of schedule.
- Interim Minister Update – Hoping to have name for June 15th meeting
- Financials – Blair will give update
- Prudential update – Sally will give update
- Capital Campaign update
- Nominating

Interim Minister – Bonnie and John have been interviewing candidates. Hopefully will be able to announce a name at Annual Meeting.

Financials – Projected deficit currently (\$65,098) but we have a good amount in unrestricted reserve fund available for this year.

Prudential Board

- Air purification system included lines that will make it easy to add A/C when we’re ready to do that.
- Sanctuary: Nest for heat is in pulpit, Nest for ionization is in deacon’s closet. Parish Hall Nest runs both heat and ionization. Stow has programmed for regular events, but we should check in on how to run the system for non-regular events.
- New dishwasher installed this week.
- Compensation plan critical going forward. Prudential Board is prioritizing this and will work on.
 - Congregation needs to understand importance of this for pledging purposes. Sally will raise issue at Annual Meeting.
- Investment report
 - Endowment fund is about \$1.7M. Down a little from 12/21 but not too bad.

- Environmental Social Governance investments up to around 70%. Have divested from fossil fuels where we can.
- Pledging has leveled off at about \$430K.

Capital Campaign

- It was decided to delay the launch to the fall
- Need to gather small groups over the summer in response to concerns some people have expressed about other approaches to fundraising

Nominating –

- Looking for 3 people to join Leadership Board.
- Betsey has list of possibilities and will start talking to people.

Youth –

- Nicole Guerin has resigned as chair.
- Roy: so important to commit to getting a youth program up and running again.
 - Ideas: host some face-to-face events to meet families, plan service opportunities.
 - Need to recruit leadership for running programs.
 - Betsey will be retiring from her full-time job 6/31 and has volunteered to help in this area.
- Proposal from Clyde Elledge at St. Andrew's to create joint youth ministry: St. Andrews, St. Michael's, Clifton Lutheran, and they approached us to join. First year would be steering committee then hire/pay for youth leader for program 3-5 years.
 - How would we fund the \$20K annual financial commitment?
 - Baptism fund has \$16K (Suggest donation of \$100 for Baptisms going forward)
 - Prudential Board doesn't recommend going forward with this program due to existing financial obligations, most importantly the state of our non-existent compensation program
 - Leadership voted unanimously in favor of Betsey and Roy working with Youth Foundation Ministry to research how to fund this commitment for 3-5 years (outside of regular operating budget).

Board Liaisons and Other Business

- Lindsay and Blair will respond to Paul re: Outreach question of how much to pay to OCWM for this quarter.

With there being no further business, Lindsay led us in a closing prayer, and we adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Meg and Betsey