

Minutes
Standing Committee Meeting
June 10, 2019

Committee Members present: Kathy Coolidge (Chair), Elaine Mittell (Past Chair), Tim Fulham (newly elected Vice Chair), Betsy Taylor (Treasurer), Nancy Fenstemacher (Clerk), John Cameron, Karen Mariscal, Karen Quigley

Committee Members absent: Jim Lillie

Also attending: Rev. Dr. Kelly Murphy Mason

Opening Words

Participatory chalice lighting accompanied with a poem read by Rev. Kelly

Welcome to two new Standing Committee members: John Cameron and Tim Fulham

Ratifying email votes taken since May meeting:

Voted to ratify the Minutes of the May 13, 2019 Standing Committee Meeting

Voted to ratify the approval of the proposed FY20 budget

Voted to ratify the approval of a new UUSWH member, Erin Rebholz

Vote to elect new Standing Committee Chair Kathy Coolidge was unanimously elected the 2019-2020 Standing Committee Chair.

Vote to elect a Vice Chair Tim Fulham was unanimously elected Vice Chair.

Important Dates:

- General Assembly, June 19-23, 2019 Our delegates (Elaine Mittell and Kathy Coolidge) will decide in which meetings to remotely participate. They may invite others to join for specific areas of interest (Stewardship, for example).
- World Pride Day Service, June 30, 2019
- Welcome Back Potluck, September 6, 2019, sponsored by the Standing Committee and Membership/Welcoming Committee (Chair-person to be determined)
- Camp Starfish Service Day, September 14, 2019 Senior Youth may attend the night before if someone organizes an overnight.
- Volunteer Fair (during Fellowship Hour)—tentatively September 15, 2019 In ad hoc fashion Betsy Taylor is creating a list of jobs and she will ask Tracy McGrath to help organize the Fair.

- Religious Education Retreat, September 22, 2019 (afternoon) for Standing Committee members, Youth advisors, OWL instructors, active RE parents, Rev. Kelly, and Michael Packard, Acting Director of Educational & Family Ministries. Deb Weiner, a certified interim religious education professional serving congregations experiencing transition in their religious education programs, will lead the retreat.
- Standing Committee All Day Retreat with Hilary Allen from the UUA—date TBD

Minister's Report

- Touchstone Groups: Therese Kelly will lead a summer Touchstone Group on Mondays at 11:00 AM.
- Communications with the minister: For 2019-2020, listening sessions will occur quarterly, coffee chats and Transition Team meetings monthly.
- Ministerial Internship update: Joan DeArtemis will be introduced to the Congregation on Sunday, June 16, 2019. She will serve as summer minister, supporting the summer services. She is seeking housing for herself and her wife for the 2019-2021 church years.
- Membership/Welcoming Committee planning: Kathy Coolidge will ask Loie Williams if she would consider chairing this committee on an interim basis.
- Social Justice Council Update: A new structure for Social Justice Council is evolving, replacing the 2012 Social Justice Council structure which predated the adoption of the shared ministry model.
- In 2019-2020, the Sunday plate collections will be distributed to charitable works on three of four Sundays in a month.
- Rev. Kelly raised some concerns about the UUMA's (UU Ministers Association) recently announced personal ethics guidelines.

Membership Report: Our voting membership stands at 156. We recently gained a new member Erin Rebholz and lost Carol Phillips whose memorial service will be held on Saturday, June 22, 2019.

Treasurer's Report

The June Treasurer's report is posted on the website.

Appointment of Finance Committee for 2019-2020 are Christy Curran, Tim Fulham, and Betsy Taylor. Endowment Committee are Doug Poutasse, Tim Fulham, and Betsy Taylor. Potentially combining these two committees into a Finance/Endowment Committee is planned. They will engage with the Advocacy and Witness Task Force's request for a review of how our funds are invested.

Personnel

Appointment of Personnel Committee for 2019-2020: Elaine Mittell as past Chair of the Standing Committee will chair the Personnel Committee; Betsy Taylor will represent the Standing Committee; Lise Olney will be the Congregation representative. Rev. Kelly also serves on the committee and the current Chair will attend meetings.

A Hiring Protocol Draft was presented to the Standing Committee for its perusal. It will be discussed further and voted upon in the fall.

Facilities Use Update

- Karen Mariscal reported that parking space rentals through Box Car seem to be off to a good start. We are hoping for more as we get the word out.
- During the next church year, Karen has agreed to negotiate the property leases and Elaine Mittell has agreed to manage tenant relations.
- Karen is negotiating a three-year rental agreement extension with the preschool housed in the church, which extension is expected to benefit the church financially. The current lease runs until June 30, 2021. The preschool has offered to pay more beginning immediately, in order to compensate the church for agreeing to the extended period. We expect to have the extension finalized in the next month or two. The lease extension will allow the church to terminate the preschool on June 30, 2022, at the earliest, if we consider that in our best interest; the previous lease did not give us any termination rights.
- The door locks update is proving to be complicated and Amanda slowly is learning the system.
- A summer sexton, Eric Pinsker-Smith, has been hired for five weeks (coinciding with Fernando's vacation), at a rate of \$15/hour.

Capital Improvements

On June 13, 2019, a meeting between the Capital Campaign Committee charged with the authority to disburse the remaining funds (\$30K) and members of the Capital Improvements Task Force will be held to decide on potential projects to fund. The projects have been prioritized by SC according to their impact on safety, energy efficiency, and the potential for further damage. Following this meeting, a sub-committee will be appointed to see the selected projects through to completion; estimates still need to be gathered for some.

The Wellesley Historical Society is planning to uphold their agreement to replant the side strip between our two properties. This project has been slowed by the Historical Society's need to seek Town Meeting approval for the rezoning of their property.

Brief Updates

- Fundraising events (planning for 2019-20): The Carnival and Silent Auction should take place in the spring. The Comedy Night (which netted \$2000+ this year) could take place in the fall. Jewels and Tools might take place every other year. It was mentioned that remains from the Rummage Sale in Room 6 need to be removed. Another idea was

raised--the Rummage Sale Committee might consider trying to “move” left over Treasures on eBay.

- Website (tabled)
- Database (tabled)
- Signage (Lise Olney discussed progress with signage at the Annual Meeting)
- 150th Anniversary planning (tabled)

Issues to be addressed by 2019-2020 Standing Committee: communicating membership expectations to current and prospective members; bylaws revision; committee restructuring; facilities management for both rentals and repairs

Karen Quigley and Doug Poutasse volunteered to review our bylaws over the summer and give their recommendations to Standing Committee.

Individual Appreciations

Betsy Taylor for her tireless work on the budget; Karen Mariscal for her remarkable success with rentals; and Elaine Mittell for her on task, efficient, and dedicated leadership.

Standing Committee Meeting Schedule:

The first Standing Committee meeting of the 2019-2020 Church Year will be on **Monday, September 9, at 6:30 PM in the Sharp Room**. Succeeding meetings will be held on the second Monday of the month: October 14, November 11, December 9, January 13, February 11, March 11, April 13, May 11, June 8.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Fenstemacher (Clerk)