

## Central Board Meeting Minutes 5/17/2022

Via Zoom 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Proof Notice: May meeting time was posted in May Spire and announced in church.

Attendees: David Brandt, Dale Earl, Jack Terrill, Andrea Trefry, Rev. Lisa Stedman and Joyce Mosher (Moderator).

Absent: Nancy Koch, Doug Marquart and Lauren Swiniuch.

The meeting was chaired by Dale Earl and notes were taken by Jack Terrill

Opening Prayer by Rev. Lisa

The Central Board minutes for 4/19/2022 were not available by the meeting. The consensus was to wait for the next meeting. Only the Spire version was available.

### Rev. Lisa - Status

- **New Church Member** - Lisa announced that Gail Pease has asked to be received as a member of the church. She reminded that the Central Board must approve new members. Typically, a transfer letter from the church the member is leaving is requested. This is so the member is not on multiple lists.
  - **Motion** by Jack, second by Andrea to receive Gail Pease as a member of Second Congregational Church (approved). She will be received in worship on Sunday.
- **50 Year Honorees** - Lisa announced that we would be celebrating 50 Year members in worship on Sunday. Bob and Crystal Atherton expect to be present. Bobbie Horne also has been a member for 50 years. She will not be able to attend, and an official letter has been sent to her honoring her long membership and service to the church.
- **Music for the Summer** - Lisa updated the board on what will be occurring for music over the summer. Nobody has been nailed down yet though there are other groups scheduled for later in the summer. Summer worship plans are coming together.

- **Homecoming Sunday** - Lisa announced that she is coordinating the Homecoming Sunday Community Service (August 7) at Lynch Park.
- **Music Plans** – The choir and others are anxious and eager about next fall and whether there will be a Music Director. There is interest in maintaining the choir and bell choir. Before a Music Director can be hired a couple steps must occur. A small group for a search committee must be formed and a position description must be developed. It was pointed out that Gail Goodell taught hand bells at Star Island. It is likely that the position would be part time with similar or less salary. Lisa has been asking other clergy for suggestions.
  - **Motion** by Jack, seconded by Dale to form a Music Search Team (approved)
- **Charles/Nancy** – their last day will be June 5. The Board reviewed the plans for that day. It was decided that there should be an exit interview. Lisa and Jack will conduct the interviews.

**Transition Planning** - An update on transition planning will be on the agenda for the Annual Meeting. The next step is to examine what are the preferred options. Many people participated in the transitional chat last Sunday when those attending were split into groups. Need to determine what people are interested in. One possible next step may be a gathering which will include some guests familiar with churches in transition. Some of the churches discussed included the Partners for Sacred Spaces and two South Shore Churches who are exploring yoking. Another possibility is to investigate potential partner. First Church Wenham and a West Gloucester church as well as Family Promise could be considered. There was a discussion on how options should be proposed. Should they develop out of the process, or should they be introduced specifically? Finally, Andrea and Lauren Noonan are confirmed for the Transition Team with a third possible member in consideration. Lisa plans to meet with this team as soon as possible.

**Bylaw Amendments** – Will be on the agenda for the Annual Meeting. The amendments will be voted on to make the updates in the bylaws. Copies will be made available to hand out and questions/comments will be taken first.

**Technology** – The difference in the sound quality is considered to be a huge improvement. David explained that Phase II is still coming. This involves two large display monitors at the front of the church. Still need to determine costs so funds can be approved and drawn. An electrician will need to be hired to run cables. There was a request to record the Postlude at each service.

**New Central Board Members** – Dale explained that 45 ballots came in. These were counted and Jack agreed to make phone calls to those voted in. There will be two new members who will be announced at the Annual Meeting.

**Annual Meeting** - the agenda will be:

1. Annual Report
2. Slate of Officers (to approve)
3. Bylaw Amendments
4. Transition Planning Update

**Coffee Hour** - The board has been hosting the coffee hour in the narthex with Lauren and Jack scheduled for the next two weeks. The board is asking if there are any volunteers to continue this effort. That effort is minimal, and there is a fund to reimburse any expenses. Those interested should sign up in the church office.

**Central Board Members leaving** - This was the last meeting of Andrea and David as their 3 year terms were concluding. They were thanked for their contributions and service. David indicated that he will stay on Technology and Andrea will continue on the Transition Team.

Closing Prayer by Rev. Lisa.