

FirstU Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 16, 2021 – ZOOM – 7:00pm

Our mission is to “Kindle the light within and inspire courage to nurture the web of life and to create a just and compassionate world.

In attendance (10): Lisa Sharp (President), Guy Belleperche (Past President), Brent Nicolle (Vice-President), Caycee Price (Secretary), Justine De Jaegher (Treasurer); Andrew Drake, Carl Sonnen, David Chernushenko, and Irvin Waller (Members at Large), Rev. Pat Haresch
Guests: Jen Brenner, Allison Armstrong, Kris Cormier, E.N. Hill

References:

Agenda

Appendix 1: Minutes of Board Meeting from May 12, 2021

Appendix 2: Covid Task Force Report

Call to order 7:00pm

1. Welcome and call to order

- a. Opening Reading/ Song—Rev. Pat
- b. Selection of Time Keeper/ Process Monitor—Brent
- c. Brief check-in/ farewell to Rev. Pat. was done

2. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of agenda
- b. Approval of Minutes from May 12, 2021 meeting

Amendment #1 to agenda: Nominating committee report. Amendment #2 to agenda: Covid task force update. Amendments approved by all.

Motion to move Consent agenda. Moved by Carl, seconded by Andrew, motion carries.

3. Committee Reports

- a. Communications and Outreach—Jen gave a brief overview of all the things Allison has been working on. Mostly she has gotten to know how the congregation works but she has also taken over the e-UU and the First U Twitter feed. Guy gave some insight as the current chair as well.
- b. Embracing Diversity Committee (EDC)— Kris gave a brief overview of the activities planned with EDC. The biggest one being the Welcome Guide. The guide should be coming to the Board for review for the August meeting. Lisa let everyone know that the Board will be taking on a leadership role along with the Denominational Affairs Team with respect to the 8th Principle. That will also be

discussed at Board meeting in August. There are plans to have a Townhall in the fall to allow congregants to voice their opinions.

- c. Finance—Justine gave a brief overview of the finance committee activities. Biggest project has been the Financial Policy Review because many policies were out of date. There is nothing for the Board to review at this time. Two sub-teams are being created: one for the Operations Budget and one for Fundraising (which Mary Ella Keblusek has agreed to lead). Rev. Pat advised that SRTC and Finance will be working together on a grant approval policy.
- d. Campus Planning Committee (CPC) —Lisa advised the CPC had a meeting to discuss how to move forward with the motions approved at the AGM. Agreements so far are that the feasibility study must occur first and it is too soon to hire a consultant. Irvin expressed some concerns about CPC not listening to some congregants and would prefer to have at least one woman working with the consultant when one is hired.
- e. Nominating Committee—Brent gave a quick update to say the notice has gone out to replace Justine as Treasurer (as a member or not of the Board).
- f. Covid Task Force—Brent brought forth the following motion. (*Appendix 2.*)
Motion: That the Board accept the recommendations proposed by the Covid Task Force. Moved by Brent, seconded by Justine. Motion carries.

4. Staff Reports

- a. Minister's Report—Rev. Pat gave the following updates but a full report will be sent by email:
 - i. For the summer, send any announcements from the Board to Kate Kirkwood to get passed on to whomever is the worship associate.
 - ii. A Reconciliation meeting occurred with interested parties, including Board members, and from that meeting came two things: 1) A second meeting has already been planned for June 17, and 2) the Indigenous Relations Action Group has started up again.
 - iii. Update on the Ajashki Project: Although we were not chosen for grants requested thus far, a call out was made for funding and was successful. Other grants are being applied for and agreement, policy, and logistic discussions have begun.

5. New Business—None was presented.

6. Information Items

- a. Memorial plaque: A decision was made by the Executive to make a compassionate exception for Angela Beale to have her son's memorial plaque placed in the sanctuary.
- b. Board Retreat: Saturday September 11th. Rev. Eric has confirmed he'll be there. To discuss: organizational structure, 8th principle, and Strategic Plan.
- c. Potential dates for 8th Principle Townhall: Sep. 25 or October 2, TBD, likely hybrid
- d. If you'd like to change your role on the Board, please let Lisa know

7. **Other Business**

- a. Board “Thankyous” - If you have any let Lisa know
- b. Board Announcements - Hospitality hour: Carl
- c. Next Meeting:
 - i. Board Meeting: August 18, 2021 at 7pm
 - 1. Opening Reading: Andrew
 - 2. Opening Song: Carl
 - 3. Closing Reading: Brent

8. **Adjournment**—Closing Reading - David

Meeting adjourned at 9:35pm.
Submitted by Caycee Price

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