

Flossmoor Community Church

Meeting Minutes from the May 25, 2021 Governing Board Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting, which was conducted over Zoom, was called to order at 7:31 PM.

Attendees

The following FCC Governing Board (GB, Board) members were present: *Anna Carvalho, Sharon Dobben, Susan Durkin, Josh Grenard, Kenny Maxie, Kris McManus, Bob Norby, Jackie Riffice, Terese Thrall, Donica Van Voorhees*

The following FCC Staff Members were present: *Jamie Ford, Betsy Hanzelin*

FCC Foundation President, *Lois Glasgow*, was present for the meeting.

Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was shared by Terese Thrall.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the April 27, 2021 Governing Board meeting were not available for approval. Kenny stated that these would be sent later this week.

Pastor/Head of Staff Report

Treasurer's Report

Bob Norby stated that the Church received \$61,000.00 in pledges in April (2021). He also informed us that we are currently \$43,500.00 over our budgeted pledge amount for the year. For a comparison, Bob stated that FCC received \$47,000.00 in pledges in April of last year (2020). Our current, unrestricted cash total \$207,000.00. Bob intends to send out the forgiveness documentation for our PPP loan (\$118,500.00) next week.

Devotional

- Teresa stated that she was impressed by how many people have been attending our services on Zoom during the pandemic.
- Bob stated that he was impressed by the speed in which the Church implemented an IT infrastructure to accommodate church services during the pandemic.
- Anna expressed gratitude for the "strength, stability, and flexibility" of the Staff in keeping the church running during the pandemic.

New Business

Nominating Committee (Terese Thrall)

Teresa presented a new slate of committee nominees for the upcoming 2021-2022 year. Included among these nominees are Mike Rodgers and Mary Kane. A motion to approve the Nominating Committee's slate

was made and, afterward, approved by the Governing Board. Teresa stated that three committee slots still need to be filled.

The Board was informed that Jackie Riffice will remain on the GB for another year.

Anna discussed the implementation of *Appreciative Inquiry* at FCC. This is an approach intended to bring structure to our Congregational revision...the Church's effort to transform. Appreciative Inquiry focuses on an organization's strengths. In the case of Flossmoor Community Church, it will address two questions: "Who are we as a congregation?" and "Who do we want to become?" A plan of action for the Church will be drawn from this approach.

The Appreciative Inquiry event is scheduled for the weekend of October 01 -- 03 of this year. It will be funded by the Foundation, and its location is to be determined.

Invitations to the event will not be limited to FCC. Members of the general community will be invited, to bring more awareness of the Church and our efforts in serving all people.

There are currently no limitations on the number of people who may attend the event.

Anna called for a motion to move ahead with the Appreciative Inquiry efforts. The motion carried.

The Church remains steadfast in our efforts in promoting Anti-racism. Our approach is to be refined in that it will no longer be solely created from scratch.

- This newer approach may incorporate the Anti-racism curriculum from the Episcopal Church.
- The approach will involve the creation of an Anti-racism committee and the hiring of a facilitator in the effort of bringing our Anti-Racism statement to fruition.
- This approach will save time for the FCC Staff.

Anna called for a motion to move ahead with our refined approach to Anti-Racism. The motion was carried by the GB.

Anna stated that the terms of Governing Board members, Sharon Dobben and Vanessa Richardson will be ending this year. Sharon spoke of the honor to have served on this Board. She encouraged other members to volunteer to participate in Church activities.

Anna asked those members present what their hopes are for the next program year. (These responses are in the Addendum to these minutes).

All those present for the meeting thanked Bob (and Betty) for hosting our End-of-Year Governing Board Potluck.

Closing Prayer

The closing prayer was shared by Anna Carvalho.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by Kenny Maxie, Governing Board Secretary

Addendum

Donica stated that she is thrilled with how the Church's reopening process has been progressing. She is looking forward to bringing music back to FCC. She informed us that interfaith services are currently being considered. She mentioned that the Church is currently conducting a search for a new Praise Director.

Jackie stated that the Faith-In-Action committee is working with a new stated purpose and intent. They will be working with the Harvey project and are researching methods to work with those who are incarcerated. Faith-In-Action will continue their work with the agencies recently funded by the GB.

Kris expressed gratitude for the generosity of our members in that pledges are currently above their intended amounts. She stated that more than the plate offerings are needed to sustain the Church's activities. Kris will be working over summer to determine what the 2021 Stewardship drive will look like.

Terese is hopeful that our membership will grow. She looks forward to Pastor Julie being embraced by the Community.

Josh hopes to upgrade the Church's nursery and its monitors. His committee is putting together a five-year plan to address maintenance at FCC. The housekeeping needs of the Church need to be addressed as regathering continues.

Susan hopes the Diaconate will be better-enabled to determine the needs of members (older members, in particular). In the more immediate future, she wishes to assist older members in registering for our continued soft openings.

Kenny expressed gratitude for being a part of the Board and seeing how Church business is conducted. He asked if GB meeting minutes should be distributed immediately after meetings or just before meetings. The consensus was to receive the minutes immediately after meetings.

Bob hopes to complete a financial audit of at least one of our fiscal years.

Lois believes the Foundation should strive to be more vision-driven in the future.

Anna is appreciative of the vitality and forward-thinking of FCC especially in light of the pandemic.