



Plymouth

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

BOARD OF SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Meeting Minutes

Dec 12, 2018

Attendance:

Yes	No		Yes	No	
	X	Lindsey Alexander (2021)	X		John Humphrey (2019)
X		Jeanne Schuller	X		Seth Patterson, <i>Staff Liaison</i>
	X	Henry Bubula (2019)	X		Josh Scharback (2019)
X		Corbin Dillon (2021)	X		Johanna Schussler (2021)
X		Becky Dougherty (2020), <i>Chair</i>	X		Stacy Yoakiem (2021)

GUESTS: list

Actions Taken:

Item 1. Minutes of the previous meeting electronically approved.

Item 2. Board members will review the draft of the Racial Justice covenant prior to the meeting on Jan 16th (draft will be emailed by Becky).

Item 3. Becky will address concerns identified and motion approved regarding our involvement with overseeing the craft portion of the Christmas festival to the leadership council next week at the Dec 19th meeting.

Item 4. Seth will invite Catherine Duncan to the Jan 16th meeting to explain her spiritual direction service.

Item 5. Johanna and John will draft a "corner blurb" about the new Sundays at 10 booklet for the January issue of the Flame.

Item 6. A pulpit announcement for the new Sundays at 10 booklets in early January once booklets are available.

Check In-Opening Thought

"Where have you witnessed a person's spirituality in action?"

Leadership Council Notes

- Becky updated the board on the leadership council meeting held on November 28th.
- The main topic of discussion was the embroideries and the process used addressing the concerns.
- At the December meeting (scheduled for Dec 19) the Board of Spiritual Formation will be highlighted. Becky will update the council on our programs and committees. Becky asked if there were specific concerns or information board members wanted her to highlight at the meeting. Johanna asked if Becky would gain feedback and impressions regarding the Sundays at 10 programming. In addition, there was a motion made later in the meeting regarding the Christmas Craft Festival that needs to be addressed with the leadership council.

Minutes Procedure

Minute-taker submits draft to group within 10 days of meeting; members have 7 days to submit revisions (no response is treated as approval).

If any revisions, minute-taker forwards revised draft to group within 3 days for electronic approval; members have 2 days to respond (no response is treated as approval).

Minute-taker submits approved minutes in Microsoft Word format to the Ministry Assistant for Programs (Doug Freeman, dougf@plymouth.org) upon approval.

- John raised his concern about Paula’s upcoming retirement and the timeline and process for a search committee. Seth assured the board there will more information after Christmas about this concern and the deacons are working on it. He encouraged us to contact the deacons with questions and concerns.

Racial Justice Initiative Update

- Seth informed the board that Ann Ludlow from the Racial Justice Initiative is our board partner. She is in the process of contacting members to gain feedback and explain next steps.
- In January, we will receive a draft of a racial covenant that we will adapt or amend for our board.
- Becky will receive the draft and forward to the group. John requested, if possible to receive the draft prior to our next meeting.
- At our February meeting, Ann will visit our group for more discussion.

Christmas Festival Discussion

- Seth led a discussion about the history and purpose of the Christmas Craft festival and asked the board to determine whether it fits within the scope of this board.
- Several scenarios were discussed including: keeping the festival “as is” under our board, keeping it under our board but changing the mission, keeping it the same and asking another board to oversee it, and changing the mission and changing the board support of the festival.
- After much discussion, the following motion was approved: “The Christmas Festival, as it stands, has value to the church community. However, the craft portion of the event does not fit within the mission and objectives of the Board of Spiritual Formation. Therefore, we request time on the agenda for further discussion with the leadership council regarding the future and vision of this event.”
- Becky will take this motion and concern to the leadership council meeting on December 19th.

Sundays at 10

- Johanna and Corbin revised and edited a new version of the Sundays at 10 booklet but were then informed that Allison from the church office will be working on the booklet.
- Johanna and John will draft a “corner blurb” for the January Flame highlighting the new booklet available in January.
- A pulpit announcement in early January about the new booklets and Sundays at 10 will be offered.
- At our February meeting, we will discuss the details of a Fellowship concern about the new booklets and Sundays at 10 programs

Covenant Partner Request

- Seth asked the board to approve Catherine Duncan’s use of office space to conduct private spiritual direction sessions with members and families of Plymouth.
- Catherine is a covenant partner of Plymouth and recommended by Paula Northwood.
- While many members were comfortable with this request, others needed additional information about the covenant partnership, scope of Catherine’s practice, and time to think more about this request.
- Seth will invite Catherine to our next meeting to inform of us more about her practice.

Liaison Update

- Liaison updates were limited due to time constraints.
- Josh asked Seth for contact information of the Library committee members so he can reach out to them.
- John and Seth had committee member updates and submitted them to Becky.

Closing

Next Meeting January 16th at 6:30PM **(NOTE DATE CHANGE)**

Respectfully submitted, Jeanne Schuller