

Thursday, October 14th, 2021
6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

GC Meeting Minutes

Present: Linda Moulder, Elizabeth Love Sheehan, Libby Fitzgerald, Jane Harper, Claire Cerling-Matlen, Sara Bauer, and Rick Eichstaedt

Consent agenda

1. Minutes from October 14
2. Final Governance Policy 2.0
3. Finance Report

The consent agenda was unanimously approved by the GC.

Review of Discussion Cards from All-Church Gathering October 17

Most congregants would like a ¼ time minister soon. The three main social justice areas of focus/interest for the congregation are homelessness, racial justice, and climate justice.

Discussion Pertaining to Hiring a ¼ time Minister

Expectations of a ¼ time minister would include leading one service per month, teach a class/offer some other project, and pastoral care as needed. The first step in hiring a ¼ minister will be to form a Search Circle in 3-6 months to conduct the search process. This will be a Sub Circle of the GC and be called by and answer to the GC.

Chalice Lighter Grant Update

The Chalice Lighter Grant Circle is currently compiling a list of needed supplies and equipment including but not limited to the technology needed to conduct hybrid (in person and via Zoom) services. The church laptop and printer were purchased using these funds.

SoulWeavers Update on Rev Crystal Zerfoss

Rev Crystal Zerfoss has excitedly accepted the position as a regular guest minister at INUUC. Her first (of 6 services) will be Solstice and then the proceeding second Sunday of each month beginning in January.

Dynamic Governance Workshop November 20

All GC attending, save ELS due to work commitment.

Rental Agreement Review and Building Update

GC reviewed rental agreement with Westminster Congregational United Church of Christ (WCUCC). There were no objections. Stephanie Sampson is moving bookkeeping materials and plans to work there a couple hours a week. Linda suggested that Stephanie be the building coordinator (main contact between INUUC and WCUUC). Linda will be meeting with the office manager to finalize some details. There will be a push button lock on our office. We have been given permission to hang a sign on the outside of the building.

GC consented to rental agreement and appointment of SS as building coordinator.

ACTION – Libby to pursue sign dimensions, materials, and quotes.

ACTION – Linda to report back on particulars of building access.

Holiday Party

Jane and Linda's original plan was to host an all-ages event in the social hall at WCUCC. GC discussed concerns around recent spike in Covid-19 cases in Eastern Washington and whether it is responsible to host an in-person event indoors. It was suggested that the GC send this concern to the Coordinating Circle (CC) to get their opinions, however there is not enough time before the party to do this. After some discussion the GC came to the decision to move forward with holding the event with the following precautions/modifications.

- Proof of full vaccination or a negative covid test dated within 48 hours prior to the event for all those 12 or older is required
- Wearing masks when not eating or drinking is required
- Food and drink will be pre-proportioned

ACTION – Libby will check vaccinations/negative tests

ACTION – Jane/Linda to send out save the date and then an Evite invitation

Sharing Pastoral Care Information with Congregation

A congregant asked the GC how best to share pastoral care information with the congregation, how to share information from UUCS. Linda suggested that this be moved to the CC. There were no objections.

ACTION – Sara to take this to the next CC meeting

Discretionary Fund for Emergency or Time Sensitive Expenditures

GC decided that this is no longer needed as they can respond to time sensitive requests.

Governance Policy 3.0

ACTION – Pushed to next month’s GC meeting for time’s sake.

Review of Draft Endowment Circle Policy

Draft policy was reviewed by GC. There were no objections. Key take-away: It will take three people to make any withdrawals from the endowment fund (GC Leader/President, Treasurer, and a member of the Endowment Circle). The Endowment Fund policy requires an amendment to the bylaws to clarify language.

ACTION – Bylaws will be amended at Annual Meeting in June 2022 to align with Endowment Fund policy.

Email Update – Auto Response

There were no emails to report. Libby has not implemented the auto response.

ACTION – Libby to implement GC email auto response.

Org Chart Update

Libby presented updated org chart.

GC unanimously approved posting the Org Chart to the INUUC website.

ACTION – Libby to ask Scott Fitzgerald to post Org Chart to INUUC website

Annual Planning Session in February

GC decided that toward the end of February makes the most sense and a weekend to accommodate the most people.

GC unanimously agreed to Sunday, February 27th, 2022.

ACTION – ELS volunteered to organize the 2022 Annual Planning Session.

Updates

Coordinating Circle

First meeting went well, and all delegates were in attendance. The main outcomes were updating/communicating with circle delegates what their responsibilities are as circle delegates and what circles must do to be in line with dynamic governance, i.e., logbook upkeep, circle organization and data sheets.

Strategic Plan

Feedback and input from community on priorities is being compiled. Libby asked for guidance from fellow GC members on the focus and direction for the strategic plan. Sara mentioned that the CC is requiring two goals from each circle that they want to work on next year and this will help to form the Strategic Plan. Also, Mission and Vision will guide the Strategic Plan.

Vision and Mission

Claire and Jane to meet with Bob and Lannie. In addition to the feedback and involvement of the community that has already been gathered, the community needs to be given another opportunity to weigh in on Mission and Vision planning. Maybe a contest? Mission/vision activity at the holiday party? The Mission and Vision will guide the work of the circles, the Annual Planning Session, and the Strategic Plan. Linda advocated for: Multigenerational and reverence for the earth.

Family Ministry

No update.

Marketing Plan

ELS reached out to Scott Fitzgerald in his capacity on the Communication Circle. Lee and Jane are working with ELS. They plan to have a concrete marketing plan in January. Ads to be placed in Figtree, Inlander KPBS and KYRS. GC discussed the idea of placing a large ad/thank you to Sandy Williams in the last issue of the Black Lens. There may be a timing issue with this idea.

501c3 application status

Rick and the Finance Circle plan to have it submitted in January. Linda asked that Rick take back to the Finance Circle the urgency that finance policies be updated.

ACTION – Rick to take Linda’s prompting back to Finance Circle.

Takeaways from meeting with Summer and Sarah

Annie Scott is working on Children and Family Ministry, and we can reach out to her. It was suggested that we make a concerted effort to include children and families in everything we do. GC wants there to be more of an effort to include children in SoulWeaving Services. GC would like to start with a story for all ages at every SoulWeaving service. When the issue of copywrite

infringement was brought up the GC suggested that that portion of the services not be recorded to allow more latitude on what stories can be used.

ACTION – Sara to take stories for all ages suggestion to SoulWeaving.