

**FIRST PARISH BROOKLINE
PARISH COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
November 2, 2015**

PC Members Present: Sue Andrews, Michele David, Ben Davis, Steve Davis, Ann Dinsmoor, Elena Garofoli, Ann Gilmore, Stacey Raczek, and James Shillaber. Also present – Rev. Jim and Rev. Maria Cristina

Check-In – How do you know that you are Beloved?

Update on Frank - Frank Peace, our beloved sexton, was hospitalized a week ago. Rev. Jim led us in a prayer for Frank. If he is unable to return to work, we have the option of granting him unpaid sick leave so he can continue longer on his medical insurance. A motion was made and unanimously **APPROVED** to offer Frank the maximum unpaid medical leave and personal leave in accordance with our personnel policy.

Consent agenda - Ann G reported that there were no suggested revisions to the draft minutes of the PC meeting on Oct. 5th.

- 1) The minutes of the Oct. 5th PC meeting were **APPROVED**.
- 2) The motion to keep our endowment funds with the UUA endowment fund was **APPROVED**.

Committee on Ministry - According to the transition ministry handbook, the Committee on Ministry must be dissolved when our interim minister comes, because interims need to be free of all previous relationships with ministers. A Teaching committee will form for the sole purpose of supporting Rev. Maria Cristina in her next one and a half years of preliminary fellowship. COM members Michelle David, Gerry Leader and Jody Leader or Dorothy Richardson will form the Teaching Committee and will give an independent review of her ministry. The interim minister will be her supervisor and will also write an evaluation, but will not serve on the Teaching Committee. If Rev. Maria Cristina has concerns beyond what she can work out with the interim minister, she will find her own source of support.

Minister's Report

1) RE: enrollment and attendance: Rev. Jim circulated a document showing our RE registration and attendance for the last four years. Enrollment has dropped and fewer parents are registering ahead of time, making it harder for us to plan. The good news is that, of those enrolled, the percentage of those actually attending is higher than in the previous couple of years.

2) A request has come from Kimberly Jackman for our church to fundraise or contribute to the Massachusetts Bail Fund. Is this a decision to be made by the Finance Council or by the Social Action forum? Ann G. will check on our social action policy and report back on the process we have in place for such requests.

3) The Chelsea Collaborative has announced that we are one of the recipients of their Unsung Hero Award along with the UU churches in Arlington and Cambridge. We will be honored at a dinner in East Boston on December 3rd. the Rev. Jim would like to encourage our Immigration Justice Committee members to attend along with our ministers. He will fund the tickets out of his discretionary funds.

4) The Pastoral Care Associates would like to start up a small group ministry for approximately 50 to 60 members next fall.

5) Update on our Thanksgiving feast - the children will leave the service after the first 20 minutes and will go to different kinds of activities in preparation for our Thanksgiving feast, which will follow the service

Celebration of Rev. Jim's Ministry - Steve Davis reported that we will be celebrating and honoring Rev. Jim's 11 years of ministry with us on December 20 during the hospitality hour after church. The theme will be "you are beloved and so are we." Laura Walters is helping Steve plan the event. The choir will be participating

Our Las Posadas event is also planned for December 20 in the afternoon, and that may make it difficult for families to participate in both events. The date and/or time for that event may need to be altered.

Song: Sue let us in singing the Hokey Pokey

Executive Session Part One, *with Rev. Jim*
Discussion of RE roles and responsibilities

Executive Session Part Two, *PC only*

Sue (chair), James, and Michele, members of the Interim Minister Task Force, reported on the search for an interim minister. A recommendation was made by the Task Force to extend an offer to a particular candidate. A motion to that effect was made and unanimously **APPROVED**.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Gilmore, Clerk