

GPC Governing Board
Meeting Minutes
February 22, 2022

Hybrid meeting: in-person & Zoom conference call: Dennis Christo, Charles Whittall, Robert Converse, Nancy White, Kim Paré, Dennis O'Malley

On vacation: Rev. Dr. Douglas Cederberg

This Zoom conference meeting commenced at 6:30 p.m.

Dennis C. offered a prayer for this day and for the GB's deliberations on behalf of GPC's business. He asked for guidance and comfort for those in need of physical, emotional, spiritual, financial support for those who seek You. We pray for our city, country, and world amidst the turmoil and the continued pandemic. Amen.

Dennis C. welcomed Dennis O. as the newest GB member, volunteering to participate in doing the business of the church. We're thankful for Dave Raphael's many years of service to GPC. He remains very involved and a valuable member of GPC. Thanks also to Ken White for helping out recently with the clothing racks on the lower level.

VOTE: The GB meeting minutes from 1/25/22 had been previously distributed and reviewed. Bob moved to accept the minutes as written. Charlie seconded. Unanimously approved. No opposition and no abstentions.

The Annual Meeting went very well. Bob said he heard that some people would have liked to ask questions for those not in attendance. We didn't have anyone overseeing the chat feature on the live recording. Kim said she heard two comments that people were looking to follow along with a hard copy in front of them and secondarily that the meeting went too long. Dennis C. said next year we should print enough for the actual meeting in addition to what we mail out or put in the Narthex ahead of the meeting. Dennis C. said the congregation seems happy to have Doug as our Settled Pastor.

Charlie Whittall said we're looking really good and on budget for all items. Bob said he saw the facilities is over budget for snow plowing.

Carolina and Doug were going to meet with the social media team in February but the GB is uncertain if they were able to meet with Russ Vickstrom, Fran Langille, and Andrea Marsden since the last GB meeting.

Bob will remind Carolina tomorrow about reaching out to Shanahan Sound System since she was sick in January and may not have done that outreach yet.

The 2 Food Hub trailers are still in the side lot. If they're not moved by the end of February, Charlie will write up a bill and send it to Shon Rainford.

Charlie thinks we don't need a new Food Permit since we're not preparing any dinners. We may need it for the monthly food preparation for Mustard Seed. Mike Wilder's Serve Safe is good

through November. The Allergy Awareness may or may not be part of the Serve Safe certification. Dennis C. thinks we should obtain a new certificate for this calendar year.

Dennis C. thanked Charlie for his work cleaning out the refrigerator and bringing up the one from the basement. The junk company hauled away the broken one.

The library on the second floor has a lot of books that need to be sorted. There are boxes on the floor and someone needs to determine if we should donate or keep. Ellen Green and Deb Richards will look through what's there. There was a discussion about only keeping books for the built-in shelves and donating old books, multiple copies, and curriculum.

Ken White posted pictures of the 4 commercial grade clothing racks on FaceBook Marketplace but there were no offers. Dennis said we purchased those for about \$350. Lincoln Street School is interested in them as a donation from GPC. Nancy will take care of the donation.

New business included the Gb members volunteering for respective officers and oversight.

Chair: Dennis Christo

Vice Chair: Bob Converse, Stewardship & Membership liaison

Treasurer: Charlie Whittall, Finance Team liaison

Clerk: Kim Paré, Diaconate liaison

Facilities & Selah liaison: Nancy White

Christian Education liaison: Dennis O'Malley

Coordinator of Teams: Pastor Doug Cederberg

Dennis C. wrote a letter on GPC letterhead to Ritacco via certified mail for the \$2k owed. The money had been kept in arrears for work should they need to repair the street once the Fales Street house was taken down. They have until the end of March to reply.

Nancy reached out to ICCC and Rev Phil Tom for Rev Doug's installation on April 24th.

Life Line Screening has asked to rent Fisher Hall for an 8-hour block on a Saturday. The GB agreed to this rental, subject to change if there are future restrictions on large group gatherings.

Ash Wednesday service is at 6 p.m. on March 2nd. Doug is thinking about a Lenten series.

Worcester lifted the mask mandate for public places of business. There was a discussion about lifting the mask mandate for GPC, suggesting people wear a mask if they wish or have loved ones with compromised immune systems/health issues.

Dennis O. made a motion to have the congregation vote to make masks mandatory or optional. Bob seconded the motion. There was a discussion about the current practice of mask wearing in the chapel & sanctuary with no mask wearing in Fisher Hall during Coffee Fellowship. One in favor. Three opposed. Two abstentions. Dennis C. will call for a congregational consensus vote this Sunday.

Bob said there were 6 applicants that will be awarded \$500. each from the Marsden Scholarship.

Dennis C. offered a prayer of good health and medical expertise for Charlie and Nancy both having medical procedures next week.

Charlie made a motion to adjourn. Nancy seconded. Unanimous agreement. The meeting ended at 7:51 p.m.

The next regular Governing Board meeting is scheduled for hybrid & in-person & Zoom meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 22, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kim Paré, Clerk