

# Presbytery of Boston Council Minutes

Purpose, Date and Location of Aleeting: This Stated Meeting convened on January 17, 2019 online via Adobe Connect.

Hlembers Present, Absent or Excused: Absent/Excused: Katie Cole (Missions & Congregations), T.J. DeMarco (Stated Clerk), David Dorer (Nominating), Sarah Hathaway (Trustees), Suyoung Kim (At Large), Cindy Kohlmann (Resource Presbyter), David Leigon (Immediate Past Moderator), Eric Markman (Committee On Ministry), Andrew Parmalee (Treasurer), Kristin Reinheimer (Committee for Preparation for Ministry), Mark Wells (At Large) MODERATOR: Veronica Soto-Feliciano OTHERS: Alan Dossett

**Opening:** It being determined that a quorum was present, meeting was opened with prayer at 7:06pm by Veronica.

Adoption of Agenda and Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the last meeting were unavailable. It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda. Approved.

### Report of Officers:

**Treasurer's Report-** Andy was not present. He had sent out his report prior to the meeting. There were no questions. **It was moved and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report.** *Approved.* 

Moderator's Report- None Available.

**Stated Clerk's Report-** None Available. TJ talked about new Communication Coordinator Ben Chicka's coming aboard, saying that Ben has been "getting acquainted with the Presbytery" by visiting churches.

**Report of the Resource Presbyter-** None Available. Cindy was not present.

## Special Reports:

[Executive Session] It was moved and seconded to accept the task force's report and endorse the task force's recommendations. *Approved*.

TJ then suggested the council dismiss the task force with thanks. It was moved and seconded to dismiss the task force with thanks. *Approved*.

#### Committees of Presbytery:

**Committee On Ministry (COM)** - Eric not present. TJ spoke of conversations with Eric during which Eric expressed COM's desire to provide Ruling Elders with the necessary training to allow them to perform pastoral worship functions (i.e.: administering the sacraments) when a Pastor is unavailable.

Committee for Preparation for Ministry (CPM) - Kristin gave a report. She spoke of having to "downsize" the committee, saying that the members of the "downsized" committee are very dedicated. She also spoke of difficulties with seminaries in the area not providing reformed theology education needed by candidates under CPM guidance. She said that CPM is working with COM and the institutions in question to provide the needed education. She also reminded the council that- under the reorganized Presbytery structure- it is CPM's job to advance enquirers/ candidates through the process when ready.

Congregations and Mission (C&M) – Katie gave a report. She spoke of a Clergy Caucus to be held Friday February 15th @10am at Newbury Court. She spoke of the committee seeking to become more "relational." Katie then shared the YAV report: They are seeking housing for the YAVs, and that they've had more interest this year by prospective candidates than last year. The



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report suggested members attending potlucks at the churches to figure out ways to collaborate with congregations. TJ mentioned that KCB (Brookline) and the Taiwanese church (Waltham) have regular/ weekly potlucks and would be interested in talking with the YAVs. In the report, they sought Council's advice on when to hold a gathering to attract candidates. TJ reminded everyone that the presbytery is scheduled to hold a gathering on Pentecost, May 6<sup>th</sup>. The YAVs also asked- via their report- that the Pentecost Offering be dedicated to them. TJ said that he believed that Council can only recommend the request, but that a vote would have to be taken at the March Presbytery meeting to approve it. **It was moved and seconded to endorse the request that the Pentecost Offering be dedicated to the Greater Boston Youth Adult Volunteers.** *Approved.* Katie mentioned that there is a New Year celebration for the YAV program on January 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Trustees**\_Sarah had no report. She said she'd defer to the Treasurer's Report. Katie asked about the funds formerly under the purview of CCS&D and- under the reorganized Presbytery structure- who manages them now. TJ said that the disbursement of those funds will now be handled by the Council.

Nominating Committee- Chair Dave Dorer was not present, so there was no report.

Adjournment and Closing Prayer: With the business of the meeting being concluded, it was moved and seconded to adjourn. *Approved*. The Meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm with a closing prayer from Katie.

Respectfully Submitted;
David E. Leigon, Immediate Past Moderator