



Presbytery of Boston Council

Minutes

Purpose, Date and Location of Meeting: This Stated Meeting convened on July 25, 2019 online via Adobe Connect. The moderator opened the meeting with prayer.

Present: T.J. DeMarco (Stated Clerk), David Dorer (Nominating), Ivy Jones Turner (At Large), Veronica Soto Feliciano (Moderator), Mark Wells (At large), Eric Markman (COM), Sarah Hathaway

Others: None

Moderator: Veronica Soto Feliciano

Opening: The moderator opened the meeting was opened with prayer at 7:00 PM. The council approved the docket and the minutes from the last meeting.

Treasurer- The treasurer submitted financial reports in writing. He reported paying all of the General Assembly and Synod per capita for 2019.

The treasurer reported that per the action of the Presbytery at its meeting in November, which came at the recommendation of Committee on Education for Mission (CEM), he distributed \$250 to each congregation with a request for congregations to report back as to how they spent the funds. He sent the funds to the CEM chair and has not heard back as to whether or not they have been distributed. Sarah Hathaway agreed to reach out to the form chair for follow-up.

Budget Task Force- The chair reported that the task force has not yet met. They expect to meet by the 5th of August. These will likely take place via Adobe connect.

Personnel –

Council voted to amend a previous action from its May meeting with the amended portion of the action in italics.

Council voted for the salaries of the three employees, Theodore DeMarco (stated clerk), Andrew Parmelee (treasurer), and Cynthia Kohlmann (Resource Presbytery) be brought in line retroactively to the Minimum Compensation Standards recommended by the Committee on Ministry and adopted by the Presbytery of a 3% increase in salaries of Minister Members of this Presbytery *retroactively to 1 January 2019*.

Moderator- The moderator reported attending the installation of the new pastor at the Presbyterian Church in Sudbury, the Rev. Desiree Lawson.



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Stated Clerk- The Stated Clerk reported that there is still a need to staff the personnel committee. The council identified individuals to serve and will contact them over the next few days.

Resource Presbyter- The resource presbyter submitted in writing a report about the celebration of the Mass Council of Churches 400-year commemoration of the first Africans to enter the United States and to celebrate the resilience of African American communities.

The council **voted** to make the \$1,000 platinum sponsorship donation to this event.

The council **voted** to designate the September Presbytery offering to help cover this cost.

Note: The event is prior to the September meeting. The offering will be used to supplement the cost, which will be paid in advance.

Committees of Presbytery:

Committee on Ministry (COM) – The chair of COM reported that the committee plans to meet on Thursday. The committee is doing well and will be introducing new members to the Presbytery. One challenge right now is in finding two interim ministers.

The council **voted** to recommend that the Presbytery approve by exception the grant request for \$15,000 through the Lynn Redevelopment Fund and the Robie Fund for the Christian Educator position at the First United Presbyterian Church in Cambridge.

The chair also reported that the Shekinah Natick inquiring faith community is working toward becoming a fellowship and hopes to have a proposal to the council by its August meeting.

Trustees- No report.

Nominating Committee- Nominating has continued to work on nominations for 2020 including vice moderator and moderator. They are also working on staffing COM.

Adjournment and Closing Prayer- The meeting adjourned with prayer at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted;

T. J. DeMarco, Stated Clerk