

First Religious Society Parish Board

Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2020

Via Zoom

Present: Maureen Adams, Juliana Beauvais, Rebecca Brodish, Rev. Rebecca Bryan, Micah Donahue, Vernon Ellis, Judy Fayre, Kristen Fehlhaber, Ann Haaser, Art Henshaw, Rich Johnson, Kim Kenly, Forrest Speck, Karen Young

Absent: Jason McLin

Call to Order

The monthly meeting of the First Religious Society Parish Board was called to order by Karen Young, Parish Board Chair, at 7:00 p.m. on April 8, 2020.

Check-in/Reading

Opening Reading

Rev. Rebecca opened with reading “Passover Remembered” from the FRS hymnal, followed by a simple check-in around the table: “how are you doing?”

Open Issues/Strategic Thinking

Minister’s Report

- Rev. Rebecca noted that the staff is doing a great job during the Covid19 crisis
- Asked the Board to consider how services might be conducted if a prohibition of gatherings > 50 people extends into the next church year
- Asked the Board to encourage people to participate in the library’s time capsule project.

PB Goal: Mission Vision

Values, Mission, Ends - Discernment

- 32 congregants participated in 3 followup workshops.
- Karen Young asked for feedback from Board members. Is now the time to approve the Mission-Vision-Ends, or conduct another session?
- One common theme in all 3 workshops was the absence of spirituality being mentioned. Remaining true to the data was discussed. It was decided to add spirituality to the first Ends statement.

The following motion was made by Judy Fayre and seconded:

Motion: “I move that the Parish Board approve the Values, Mission and Ends as presented to the congregation on March 15, 2020 as modified at the April 8, 2020 board meeting and that said Values, Mission and Ends be placed on the Warrant for the Annual Meeting on May 31, 2020.”

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

PB Goal: Stewardship

Kim Kenly described the parameters of a loan to be used to pay salaries for 2 ½ months.

The following motion was made by Kim Kenly and seconded:

Motion: “I move that the Parish Board approve the submittal of a loan application under the SBA Paycheck Protection Program of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act or the ACT) to be used and repaid under the terms set forth therein; and that Kristen Fehlhaber, Director of Finance and Administration, be duly authorized to sign and submit said application.”

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

The following motion was made by Rich Johnson and seconded:

Motion: “I move that the Parish Board authorize the Parish Clerk, Ann Haaser, to communicate the previous vote taken by the Parish Board regarding a certain loan application under the SBA Paycheck Protection Program, in whatever manner deemed necessary by the receiving lending institution.”

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Fundraising & Financials

Kristen Fehlhaber and Kim Kenly introduced a fundraising plan to raise \$30K, called the “FRS Covid19 Recovery Fund” (with “Compassion in Action” as its tagline). These funds would go into the Operating Budget and Minister’s Discretionary Fund for people in need due to Covid19. The funds are for this church year ending June 30. In conjunction with this, a \$15K reduction in the budget is also being studied.

Campaign Update

Kristen Fehlhaber reported that securing pledges is taking a bit longer given current conditions.

Executive Session

No Executive Session occurred during meeting.

Stewardship Team: Next Year

Not discussed.

New Business

Treasurer Positions

The following motion was made by Maureen Adams and seconded:

Motion: “I move that the Parish Board approve the bifurcation of the current Treasurer role as described in the position descriptions entitled “Finance Treasurer” and “Endowment Treasurer” and that the necessary By-law change be placed on the Warrant for the Annual Meeting on May 31, 2020.”

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Nominations Update

The Board thanked Maureen Adams for the work she has done to develop the slate of nominations for next year.

The following motion was made by Ann Haaser and seconded:

Motion: “I move that the Parish Board approve the nominations slate as presented by the Governance Committee to be placed on the Warrant for the Annual Meeting on May 31, 2020.”

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Annual Meeting - Virtually

Not discussed.

Consent Agenda

- Minutes 3.11.20 Parish Board Meeting
- Minutes 3.19.20 FinComm Meeting
- Minutes 3.26.20 FinComm Meeting
- Minutes 4.3.20 FinComm Meeting
- Minutes 11.26.20 Program Council
- Minutes 1.28.20 Program Council

The following motion was made by Rebecca Brodish and seconded:

Motion: “I move that all items on the Consent Agenda be approved.”

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Forrest Speck moved to adjourn the meeting, which passed unanimously, and Karen Young adjourned the meeting at 9:37 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Ann Haaser, Parish Clerk