

2022.01.05 Committee of the Whole/LC Meeting

Sanctuary UCC Annual Meeting voted to implement a [Committee of the Whole Model of Governance](#); wherein all members and partners of Sanctuary UCC are now "elected" to do the work of the Leadership Circle. Here is the Mission and Ministry Plan that will guide that work this year: [2022.2023 Mission and Ministry Plan](#).

Minutes from previous meetings. [Ministry Meeting Minutes Archive](#)

[Join Zoom Meeting](#); Meeting ID: 825 8167 0394; Passcode: 487224; By phone: 309.205.3325

Agenda/Minutes

In attendance: Aaron Olapade, Terri Bracy, Paul Roberts, Becky Jacques, Ben Jacques, Julie Roberts, Christy Miller, Katie Willis, Wendy Miller Olapade (9)

1. Opening Circle and Prayer - [Shareholders and Stakeholders](#)

How does this reflection affect your experience of Sanctuary's mission and ministry?

Terri - really inspired by the reframing of the blog post, even with the best of intentions, we tend to think in terms of myself and church's self - so it is a great frame to keep us engaged around the circle, equal voice; our partners in ministry also have voice - those who reply on us, Hillside, with Jesus.

Christy - reminds me that in the business world making unsustainable promises to shareholders; each stakeholder gets equal status. Really love that; some wont actually be jhumans but we can still consider and guess what the future generations, sets off todays conversation, really appreciate the wisdom of it!

Ben - brilliant, and made sure to save it , for all the reasons, I am so right braine oriented thinkinab about "stakes" pitching in the ground. We have [pitched a tent, mission the owner of the church, not the people! The dimensions forward and backward, horizontal and vertical and we need to look at it that way. Inside the church from the pwe and beyond.

Katie - stakeholders, how can the role of stakeholder be concretized by a covenant, blessing/ritual of covenant

Aaron - I like the idea of a stake in the ground from Ben, committing amd being rooted in mission that doesnt get blown away by context and struggles / motivations of the moment (ie: pandemic context); exhaustion, social and cultural difference have hit us hard. Can we maintaining the "stake"

Paul - helpful differentiation

Charlene - Here to listen and to try to decide for myself where I want to go with all of this. Enthusiasm has drained and I just don't know where I am, but I am holding on to hear.

Julie - Like the word stakeholder emphasizes making a direct commitment, we have been flowing along the last few months; this is good to be reenergized, as commitment is important.

Becky - nothing additional, agree with the idea of everyone having voice and being seen.

Beyond ourselves, equal voice, being seen, taken care of, resiliency plan, what are we doing to nourish everyone's voice -

Resiliency in systems

2. Review Agenda - Call for any additional agenda items from Committee of the Whole

3. Reports

- a. [Meeting Minutes for 2022.12.01](#): Paul moves to accept minutes, Ben seconds; Outcome of vote Unanimous approval
- b. Treasurer Report - [2023.01.05 YTD Budget versus Actuals](#)

4. Agenda Action Items

- a. Use/Lease of 458 High Street:
 - i. Current Rent is 1850.00; need response to landlord by January 20
 - ii. On Jan 2 - landlord emailed Rev. Wendy a Lease Addendum or tenant at will option
 1. [2023 + 5 year addendum](#) @ 2000.00
 2. tenant at will @ 2400.00 (Jan 20)
 - iii. Wmo reached out to discern if any other options for lease and determine what we are allowed to do that might give us more breathing room to keep the space for office/storage and "rent" to others - but have not heard back from landlord
 - iv. Ben - What is the penalty for breaking lease; feel like we need at least another year minimum?
 - v. Terri - can we negotiate a one year at 2200.00; commit to a six month notice?
 - vi. Paul - agree with tenor - see if we can negotiate a one year at least; with a six month notice at a lower rate than at will?
 - vii. WMO - while there are empty storefronts in the neighborhood, this landlord does not have empty spaces - Simple Fare is renting storage space elsewhere, and actively looking for larger space - so it is possible that they would jump on our space? But also may leave.
 - viii. Decision to go to landlord for options and come back to the COW via email for approval/action ASAP

- b. Sanctuary Storefront Sign: Grant Award of \$2000.00 of total cost \$4115.00; obligation to replace the banner; \$ 2,115.00;
 - i. Lets do it - we have to be identified; visible, it is the tent we have staked; trying to get energized from covid we need to give it a year and have exciting things to extend our outreach. We need to implement the sign.
 - ii. Vote: Ben moved to Proceed, Paul seconded and we unanimously agreed.
- c. Sanctuary Projector (\$1,000 - 3,000 Cost of Replacement) or temporary options
 - i. Borrow Projector from Ben we have a large TV from WMO; I do have a projector it works well in fairly large room; dont know if it an be put on the bracket.
 - ii. For now, we will proceed with TV for meetings and figure out if we can use this temporary projector option for the next film. If it is inadequate, we will come back to the next meeting with proposal.
- d. Sanctuary 2023 Discernment Process
 - i. Approved by COW/LC to proceed with process to consider Sanctuary future with goal of May 2023 outcome
 - ii. Core Team (to date): Rev. Wendy, Christy Miller, Terri Bracy, w/Tom Hathaway review
 - iii. Propose [2023 Sanctuary Discernment Process](#) (superstructure)
 - 1. Christy presents Map/Graphic
 - 2. Everyone is contributor! Everyone is needed to insure well rounded and considered.
 - 3. Five Phases in the process - all projects have these steps (Background, Initiating, Planning, Work, Launch). Ours will include community-wide engagement, volunteerism; and check in with Committtee of the Whole each step to proceed.
 - a. Part Zero: Who We Are Now - A Beginning Point; [see this webpage with an Overview of the Snctuary Story](#)
 - b. Part One: Initiate - It is typical to jumpt to doing the work, before we Initiate (explore and define what the work is); ie: jumping to a solution, or just changing the last vision and therefore missing the discernment step
 - c. Part Two: Plan - Figure out how to do the work, adjust as needed
 - d. Part Three: Work - Regular meetings to do the work, make adjustments; develop options, discernment about God's Mission; Vote on options
 - e. Part Four: Launch - Woo Hoo!
 - 4. Discussion
 - a. Paul - questions: Sanctuary 2023 - creating something that is beyond 2023; change that to "Sanctuary Next"
 - b. Christy - we will adjust the "map" to reflect this change

- c. Paul - based on last months discussion, thought we were talking about getting to deciding what we wanted to do by May, 2023 -them negotiating with partners; realistic time window
 - d. Christy - there are influences on timeline - bylaws deadlines/meetings that have to happen (lease, etc), resources, money, time all affect scope, and the the order begins with stakeholder interviews and then we create the objective - only then can we define the due dates and time line.
 - e. WMO - reflecting on human reaction to Liminal space; it is easy to want to just get to the answer - but we have a team to hold us to both process and obligations s well as attendikng to what is, not rushing to answers, beeing present to God's plan and spiritual discovery. This is the way of discernment versus decision making (Susan Beaumont - How to lead when you dont know where you are going)
 - f. Aaron - really appreciate what Wendy noted here: it would be easier to just merge. But what would that do to/for our stakeholders; Sanctuary needs to consider all the things. Falling short, succeeding, etc. what is the call to mission? Hone in on call to Mission
5. Motion to "Accept the 2023 Sanctuary Discernment Process as our next step as a congregation and will serve as our 2023 Visioning Meeting Process." Aaron moves, Paul seconds. After this discussion, vote is unanimous
- a. Terri - is there anyone else who needs to ask a question?
 - b. Christy - process can be modified, as we go, the time line gets defined along the way, we can also adjust the plan bsed on the dreams. Thoughts, and hopes of stakeholders. We see the goal of both moving promptly and taking time to allow the process to unfold
 - c. Ben: the river, when you are on it, it looks like you are on a pnd, you dont see where it is going, you only learn by going around the bend. Itis in the going that you discover where you are going.
 - d. Ben - [The Waking By Theodore Roethke](#); I learn by going where I have to go
- iv. All are invited/asked to **review Part Zero: Read** (and provide feedback if needed) the [Overview of the Sanctuary Story](#); watch for more information and invitation to engage in next steps
- v. Schedule, Volunteers, Etc. to be determined during the process
- e. Elect officers - tabled to next meeting
 - f. Pastor Salary Treatment - pending review of the remainder of the benefit package (tabled until next meeting)

5. Ministry Updates

- a. Am2pm - planning underway
 - i. Received \$10,200 grant from City of Medford
 - ii. [Cummings Grant](#) Proposal (Submitted Dec/Notified May) \$33K per year/3 years (Program staffer, peer stipends, (1) week HS, (4) week middle school program)
- b. OWL 5-6th graders; winter/spring - self sustaining/small revenue source
- c. (3rd) SoulCollage - February 04 - moving to Hillside lower level for increased capacity and space - self sustaining/small revenue source
- d. Arts and Inspiration Series - "Im-migration (draft theme name)"
 - i. Theme will consider where we come from/where we go to - and what are we taking refuge from/for/with/etc?
 - ii. Gallery artists - beginning w/February Installation
 - iii. Spoken word - pending
 - iv. Film - Belfast (january) and more to be determined
 - v. Art experience
 - vi. Worship - Good Friday
- e. "Hope Lives": Sermon series Gospel of John (Jan, through Lent/Easter)
- f. Potluck/Community Meals (Jan 29, Mar 0, Apr 02, May 07, Jun 11 (Youth and Picnic)
- g. Tom starting an outdoor church mission in Davis Square with several other churches in the neighborhood - asap
- h. BOL - Feb 08/09, Apr 12/13, Jun 14/15 (etc. second wed/thur of even numbered months)

6. Review day/schedule/time going forward for the Comm of the Whole meeting.

- a. Next meeting date, Feb 02 (5 - 6:30)
- b. Additional Discernment (Visioning) Process Meetings - to be determined