



**Foothills Board of Trustees
Approved Regular Meeting Minutes
June 17, 2021**

Approved 7-15-2021

Board Members Present: Sue Sullivan, Andrea Delorey, Sara Steen, Brendan Mahoney, Debbie Gentry, Rev. Gretchen Haley (ex-officio board member)

Board Members Present on Video Conferencing: Doug Powell, Glenn Pearson

Staff Present: Rev. Sean Neal-Barron

Nominated Board Members Present: Walter Nash, Linda Kothera and Richie Nelsen

Online meeting convened at 6:00pm at the home of Andrea Delorey with a virtual chalice lighting by Glenn Pearson followed by a check-in.

Consent Agenda

Consent agenda consisted of the May 13, 2021 regular board meeting minutes and the May 23, 2021 Annual Congregational Meeting minutes. Sue requested the May 23, 2021 Annual Congregational Meeting minutes be pulled from the Consent Agenda. **Brendan moved to approve the Consent Agenda minus the May 23, 2021 Annual Congregational meeting minutes. Motion passed.**

Regular Board Work

Item #1 - Items pulled from the consent agenda

The May 23, 2021 Annual Congregational Meeting minutes were pulled from the Consent Agenda and revised to show Foothills' anniversary celebration would be held in 2023. **Sue affirmed the May 23, 2021 Annual Congregational Meeting minutes as corrected.**

Monitoring

Item #1 - Minister's Report

The minister's report for the month of June will be reviewed in Basecamp.

Item #2 - Annual review of the role of the board, the board officers, and our covenant

Sue led the discussion by suggesting that one way to review the role of the board in 2020-2021 would be to consider how well we lived into the global delegation to ministry. Several instances were brought up by board members indicating that at times, the board may have become slightly involved but would quickly realize this by remembering to question if the matter was a board or ministry issue. Rev. Gretchen added that she felt the board had not overstepped its role but had partnered with her during some large decisions in a way that helped her feel supported.

Sue expressed that in the interest of time, monitoring the role of board officers and board committees would be discussed at the annual board retreat on September 10 and 11, 2021. She asked the outgoing board members, Glenn Pearson, Sara Steen, and Brendan Mahoney to write their thoughts on basecamp about what committees they felt would be beneficial going forward.

The annual review of the covenant began with Sara sharing her thoughts about bringing awareness to not only the board's "voice in the room" but also being mindful of those "voices that are not" in the room. She also felt that the process of turning toward each other in difficult times was not easy and that each board member needed to discuss difficulties with other board members in order to restore covenant. Debbie mentioned she felt she had broken covenant by going to Sue about an issue she had with Rev. Gretchen and felt this was "forming a triangle" and made an apology to both Sue and Rev. Gretchen. Rev. Gretchen clarified that turning toward another board member for support was different from the board communicating with one unified voice. Rev. Sean added that if board members needed support from other board members, it was encouraged to seek out that support and doing so would not constitute forming a "triangle" unless this practice was a habit and the board member giving support was asked to solve the problem being brought to them.

Annual Board Goal Oriented Work

Item #1 - Finalizing the year's policy book revisions

After several minor policy revisions were made, the issue of responding to congregants' concerns "in a timely manner" (Policy 3.3.2) was discussed with the decision to leave the policy as is and when the monitoring schedule was revised to discuss how this particular policy would best be monitored.

Policy 4.3.6 was also discussed with Richie asking if a "feedback loop" was necessary when responding to staff or congregants' requests for a policy change. It was agreed

that the board would communicate directly with the stakeholders who had requested policy revisions and the board would annually publish a list of policy revisions. Rev. Gretchen added that as the monitoring schedule was revised, she would include how she interpreted policy and what she considered to be a reasonable interpretation. **Doug moved to approve the revisions to the policy book completed in 2021. Motion passed.**

Item #2 - Final review of this year's goals and input on next year's goals

Sue said that she would start a thread on basecamp to solicit ideas and feedback from the outgoing board members on their thoughts about the past 2020-21 board goals and also on the upcoming 2021-22 goals. With that feedback, the board goals for this year and next would be discussed at the annual board retreat in September, 2021.

Onboarding and New Board Member Training

Item #1 - Role-playing Policy Governance with Rev. Sean Neal-Barron

Rev. Sean led role-playing exercises meant to familiarize the new board members with the Policy Governance model.

Communications and Check-out

Due to the length of the board meeting, this section was not covered.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm

Minutes written and presented by

Debbie Gentry,
Board Secretary