**First Unitarian Church of Providence**

Prudential Committee Special Meeting Notes

April 7, 2021

**SPECIAL MEETING OBJECTIVE:**

**To endorse a plan to create a task force with appropriate goals and guidelines in order to address the vacancy created by the resignation of our current music director.**

**ATTENDING:**

**Prudential Committee**

Michael Cappelli, President

Cheryl Bartholomew, Past-President

Odile Mattiauda, President-elect

Roberta Groch, Treasurer *(absent)*

Claire Rosenbaum, Clerk

Edie Warren, Personnel Liaison

Beth Armstrong, Strategic Planning

Louise Sloan, Community Life Liaison

Greg Kniseley, Social Justice Liaison

Elizabeth Allsworth, Spiritual Development Liaison

Stewardship Liaison – vacant

Assistant Treasurer - vacant

**Church Staff Attending**

Liz Lerner Maclay, Minister

**Meeting was held remotely via zoom due to COVID-19 Emergency.**

**Call to Order – 7:18 PM**

**DISCUSSION:**

Michael shared a Power Point that outlined the following tasks at hand:

* Celebrate Fred Jodry’s years of service – May 23
* Confirm music for 5/30, 6/6, 6/13 – Music and worship committee are working on this
* Identify interim music director, 9/12 – TBD – By mid summer? Form Task Force with Music Committee members on task force. Five person interim search Task Force.
* Steward / Support Music Committee
* Discern / define role of open music position(**s)** in the life of the church – During next church year
* Search for candidate(s)
* Hire Candidate(s)

It was noted that Cathy Seggel (DRE) will be on sabbatical from January – May, 2022 and Rev. Liz goes on Sabbatical June 2022. Discussion of the possibility of an interim music director potentially serving for more than one year – possibly a year of discernment followed by a year of search for a permanent Music Director.

Two definitions from First U By-Laws were noted: “A **Committee** consists of a group within the Church which is ongoing, assigned to one of the four (4) ministries of the Church”. “A **Task Force** consists of a group appointed by the President of Prudential Committee to accomplish a specific task and which disbands after that task is completed and its report is given.”

**Report on Three Music meetings –** Elizabeth Allworth reported on three meetings that were held since Fred Jodry’s resignation:

**March 22** – Anyone who touched music in the church was invited – about 15-20 people attended. They talked about our growing church and formalization of reporting and job description creation based on Susan Beaumont recommendations. Group asked larger questions of vision for music and diversity of music program for the church.

**March 28 –** Music committee met. Questioned what is music committee charge. Began to address needs for three services at end of church year after Fred leaves. Questioned role of Music Committee in search for new music director.

**April 3** – Drafted new purpose statement. Articulated hopes for future of music and committee role in search for new music director. Co-Chairs, Janice Okoomian and Alison Green. Two new members have been recruited as well.

**Formation of a task-force**

**Motion: To form a task force charged with identifying and recommending to PruComm an interim music director to serve from August, 2021 at least until June 12, 2022.** (Michael / Edie). Passed unanimously.

Beth Armstrong volunteered to serve on this Interim Music Director Search Task Force. Other suggested members were Alison Green, Chris Sanzo, Meghan Smith, Lee Rodman. They will be invited to serve. Liz suggested that as Senior Minister who will need to work closely with any Music Director, she should be on Task Force as well. Liz and Edie will work with task force on job description for interim music director. It is possible that this task force could form the core of a permanent music director search task force with additional members to be added. This to be determined at a later date.

Michael also shared general guidance to this and a future search task force for permanent Music Director:

* Solicit input from stakeholders
* Report to PruComm
* Come to consensus on all recommendations
* Be open to changing plans
* Be conscious of time, without being rushed

Michael shared a RACI diagram (who should be **R**esponsible, **A**ppoving, **C**onsulted, **I**nformed). He urged members to consider this chart and which constituencies as we continue to discern the future of music at First U and identify both interim and long term Music Director.

The three presidents and Liz went on to meet with new members at 8:30PM when other members left the zoom room and meeting effectively ended.

Respectfully submitted,

Claire Rosenbaum, Clerk