



DRE (Mandy) – celebrated the engaging nature of the multi-gen services. Reported that some RE spaces were being updated with age-appropriate furniture. Entertained other questions.

Director of Operations (Nancy) – Nothing to add to report; entertained questions.

**Organ report** (Joan) – Jonathan Ambrosino, the organ consultant hired by PruComm, was here all day Tuesday, April 11, to introduce himself to the organ. Joan was there for some of the time, and Ambrosino also met with Rev. Liz. He will be submitting a full report; highlights include:

- The church space is amazing, including the acoustics, which are greatly affected by the dome.
- Our organ is old, actually too big and complicated for our space, probably needs to be replaced. It is operating at 80% capacity, purely because of age. An investment of \$5000 per year could keep it running for a few more years.
- Recommendation is to make a move sooner, rather than later – prices will only increase.
- Jonathan will recommend a range of options for moving forward.

**Commitment Drive report** (Diane) – Diane reported that we are still lacking pledges compared to this current year. The amount of pledges for this current year totaled \$479,000; so far for the next year the amount totals \$447,000. We really need to have \$500,000 in pledges in order to meet our goals for projects and ministries.

Rick has been sending follow-up emails, and he and Diane and others have been making follow-up phone calls. We discussed the strategy of inserting pledges at 75-100% of the current year pledge, especially for those whose automatic payments continue to come in. We agreed to wait until more calls can be made. It was also decided to 1) add a frank note to the First U Times stating that we need \$50,000, 2) add an invitation to worship for Liz to emphasize the need for everyone to pledge, 3) ask a volunteer to be available after worship Sunday to assist people with making pledges online.

We had a brief discussion about a co-chair to serve with Diane for next year's Drive. Hillary offered to go through a list of members with Jenn and Nancy to make some suggestions for Diane to consider. The person needs to be committed and persistent.

**Finance and Development report** (Hillary) – The new 'Development' group met and is making good progress.

There is a plan to promote Planned Giving, including a new attractive brochure prepared by Colin Murray. The idea is to get the brochure ready and printed and plan some events for the fall.

A strategy for discerning capital needs has been developed.

There will be a Kitchen Task Force, similar to the tech Task Force, which will do some research and present some options for kitchen upgrades. Andy will provide oversight for building work groups.

**Technology Report** (Michael C.) – Michael presented a very thorough report on the work of the Task Force which has been researching options for audio and visual improvements to the Meeting House and Parish House. The full report is available. It includes a statement of the issues, some history of other sound efforts, the task force methodology and research, and a summary of three estimates from 3 different companies. The different estimates and recommended scope of work are remarkably similar. Before any more work or research can be done, each company needs a budget figure to work with. They have all done a lot of work for us with no obligation and we cannot expect any more ‘free’ consultations until we have a commitment to proceed.

PruComm thanked Michael and the Task Force for the incredibly thorough work. The recommendations will be considered.

**Volunteer Recognition** (Joan) – Joan indicated that she had had a conversation with Ted Martin about some potential Pillars of the church. A Pillar is someone who has been a member of the church for at least 20 years and has provided extraordinary service. We haven’t named a Pillar in several years and Ted offered a nomination (which I will not insert here in case they read these minutes...!).

Joan asked for a motion; it was moved and seconded (Peter/Hillary) and approved unanimously. Joan asked Liaisons to review the members of their ministry areas for potential volunteer recognition. Typically there is one Pillar (or Pillar couple) and then recognition within ministry areas.

**Strategic Planning report** (Peter) – Peter provided an update on the upcoming Big Day. He needs volunteers to act as facilitators for work groups during the day. Training for facilitators with our outside consultant, Erica Baron of the UUA, will happen Tuesday, April 18. Peter and Nancy have worked out space logistics and food arrangements.

Peter stated that a church member had asked if it was within the purview of the PruComm to set a strategic plan without the congregation seeing it. The original idea was for a final product to be created at the Big Day, and for implementation plans to begin immediately. After a discussion it was agreed that the PruComm would prepare and adopt a specific plan/road map based on the work done in April, and it will be shared for consideration by the congregation in the fall.

Peter proposed the adoption of the following resolution:

“Having authorized and put in place a year-long strategic planning process, the Prudential Committee approves the current proposal for bringing everyone in our community together on April 29, 2023 for the purpose of framing an overall strategic plan.

“Following the April 29 gathering the PruComm will develop the plan more fully through an implementation process that is transparent and accountable.

"The fully fleshed-out strategic plan, reflecting our Big Day discussions and decisions, will be shared for consideration by the community in the Fall of 2023."

After a discussion, it was moved and seconded to adopt the resolution (Peter/John). Motion was approved.

Because of the lateness of the hour, it was decided to table the consideration of search committees and an emeritus policy until next month's meeting.

**Items for next meeting**

- Pride budget
- Organ follow-up
- Discussion about sabbatical chalices
- Music Director and DRE Search committees (including discussion of the Music Committee proposal to commit to a full-time music director)
- Proposal from Food Pantry for a continuing Community Collection

The PruComm adjourned into Executive Session.

Respectfully,

Nancy Forsstrom, Director of Operations