

**First Unitarian Church of Providence**  
Special Prudential Committee Meeting Notes  
September 6, 2023

**ATTENDING:**

**Prudential Committee**

Hillary Salmons, President  
Joan Richards, Past-President  
Karen Silva, President-Elect  
John Dooley, Treasurer  
Chris Campanile, Deputy Treasurer  
Kate Niles, Clerk  
Dana Borrelli-Murray, Personnel Liaison  
Peter Laarman, Strategic Planning  
Katy Killean, Community Life Liaison (absent)  
Lisa Voutes, Social Justice Liaison  
Alison Green, Spiritual Development Liaison  
Andy Wilby, Stewardship Liaison  
Ex-officio – Rev. Liz Lerner Maclay

**Church Staff Attending**

Nancy Forsstrom, Director of Operations  
Mandy Neff, Interim Religious Education Director

**Guests:**

Peter Laarman and Martha Rice Sanders, Co-Chairs Strategic Planning Committee

**7 PM – No formal Call to Order, etc.**

Special meeting to discuss Strategic Plan. Strategic Plan unanimously approved.

**1. Relevant Points regarding Strategic Plan:**

- a. There was no deviation from what was gleaned from the “big day” congregation-wide brainstorming around strategic goals for the church that occurred in May.
- b. There is nothing particularly “new” in the Plan – continuity from what has been ongoing or developing before
- c. There is an obvious emphasis on antiracism and being a “Church of the City.” More focus on public justice versus (scattered) charity.
- d. Interconnectedness between parts.
- e. Recommendation to hire a Community Life Coordinator to facilitate C and D. Could expand current Membership Coordinator job or hire someone P/T.
- f. Plan is a living document.

## 2. Staff Input:

Liz reports all staff very enthusiastic regarding the Plan. She spoke for Jenn Nardone, Membership Coordinator, who expressed her concern that most items were suggested for implementation in the first two of the five years, and she wondered if that front-loading was feasible. She also was open to evolving her position w/r/t the Community Life Coordinator.

Liz reports that Roger suggested a role for himself as Asst Minister with the antiracism work in Aspiration #2 (see Plan), as well as “digital ministry” with media and communication under Aspiration #4.

Mandy wondered why gender and sexual orientation was not mentioned and would like that added to Plan. Also would like more explicit interweaving of children’s programming into the Aspirations. It was mentioned that the DRE search will raise some of these concerns.

Nancy stated that assessing the physical environment needs to include her as she has a lot of physical plant knowledge.

It was generally noted that the Plan was exciting, ambitious, a bit scary for those more conservative regarding change, but well-thought out and enthusiastically embraced.

**8:05 Motion by Hillary to Approve Plan. Joan moved, Peter seconded.**

Meeting adjourned.