

**Minutes of the Standing Committee - First Parish in Concord
Interim FY 2017 proposed budget discussion meeting**

June 5, 2016

Regular Attendees		Present
Fifi Ball	Director of Operations	Y
Jeff Brainerd	Standing Committee member	Y
Kate Crosby	Standing Committee member	Y
Howard Dana	Senior Minister	Y
Dave Elwood	Standing Committee member	Y
Kristin Haddad	Standing Committee member	Y
Peter Nobile	Clerk	Y
Patty Popov	Standing Committee member	Y
Toby Smith Ropeik	Standing Committee member	Y
Mark Russell Prior	Chair	Y
Lora Venesy	Standing Committee member	Y
Alec Walker	Standing Committee member	Y
Tom Wilson	Treasurer	N

The purpose of this special meeting was to review and discuss the Proposed FY 2017 budget in preparation for Annual Meeting. Howard opened the meeting with Jane Marie Johnson on covenants.

Minister's report

Howard updated the committee on this morning's medical event during service, and reported that the congregation remained remarkably calm and that the parishioner is medically stable.

Trustees of Parish Donations: New member ratification

After a brief introduction by Mark, Patty motioned that Victoria Rizzi be nominated as a Trustee of Parish Donations. Alec seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Proposed FY 2017 Budget Discussion

Fifi presented a detailed summary of the proposed budget. The Committee discussed details within the budget, asking a number of clarifying questions and comments on subjects including:

- Use of previous year pledge money
- Potential spending cuts
- One-time budget infusions to be used for one time spending.
- Possible redistribution of small targeted funds (e.g. Maggy Wolf, Bird or Youth Action funds)
- UUA Fair Share payments
- FP staff duties/stress on staff time
- SAC 7.5% grant allocation

In summary, the church faces the question of how to best balance our budget: reducing spending, providing fewer services, increasing fundraising, even considering making fewer social action grants. It is clear that in order to balance our budget we must make adjustments. There was one item up for vote, which was a request to inject up to \$15,000 from available cash into the budget for programs and services, with the understanding that this one-time adjustment to the budget is being made in order to make the prior year's pledge payments amount more realistic, cover one-time expenses, or smooth the transition to lower levels of service. The motion passed 8 to 2.

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Other business

Mark will invite Kate Svrcek and John Lowe, who are expected to be elected to the Standing Committee at the Annual Meeting, to the next regular Standing Committee meeting on July 12, 2016.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, and the meeting ended at 8:50 PM.

/pn