

First Congregational Church of Woodstock
Minutes of Governing Board Meeting
Wednesday Apr. 9, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

In Attendance: Rev. Dr. Kevin Downer, Ginny Moylan (Moderator), Jennifer Beck, Laura Boies, Charles Bottieri, Suzanne Cimochoowski, Bruce Mikolajczak

Welcome and Opening Devotions:

- Moderator Ginny M opened the meeting at 7:08 pm with our current ritual of lighting a candle and sharing a word or phrase that expresses where you are as you come to this meeting.

Consent Items:

- Minutes from the last meeting were amended to reflect discussion of the Pastor's contract being held in Executive Session.
- Motion to accept the updated Minutes and other consent items: Ginny, 2nd: Charles. Motion passed.

Financial Report (Suzanne)

- Windows Capital Campaign
 - We are at approximately \$52,000 of our \$64,000 goal.
 - The contract was signed today. Work is scheduled for March 2026.
- Audit is started
 - Bruce Staehle is taking the lead with assistance from John C, Bruce L, Holly W, and Ruth T.
- Clerk Search continues
 - We have not found a replacement for Laura yet but plan to reduce her workload in the meantime.
 - Ginny will write up the Actions steps.
 - GB members will take turns doing the minutes for now.
 - Bruce M - May
 - Jen B - June
 - Ginny - July?
 - Rev. Kevin will repost the ad for the clerk.
 - Plan to talk about the opening at the Brunch Church on April 27.
- Executive Session regarding the Pastor's compensation
 - This will be handled as part of the planning for the 2026 Budget.

Faith in Action Initiative - Rise Up Lawn Signs campaign

- Standing up for democracy and democratic values of common good, fair .
- Include support with social media.
- Ordered three sandwich board signs.
- Kick off the sign campaign after church on Sunday Apr. 13.
- Discussion of whether we need security for signs. Possibly use bike locks. Charles will

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look into the possibility of using security cameras for general security of the church.

- Discussed possibilities. Charles will look into some possibilities.

Delegates needed for Windham Assoc. and SNEUCC

- Windham Assoc. - 2 delegates for Wed. May 21st meeting (online)
 - Suzanne and Ginny volunteered
- SNEUCC - up to 3 delegates for annual meeting Sat. June 7th, 9am-3pm (online this year)
 - Ask the congregation for volunteers.
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Updates to Sanctuary

- Mary Lou Davis had some suggestions for updating the sanctuary.
 - Develop a small core group of volunteers to generate Ideas, and look at the expense.
 - Ginny will contact Mary Lou.

Crystal Lake Summer Retreat Day

- Suzanne will ask John C if there are dates available in May and June.
- The retreat will be less formal than last year. Just worship, lunch and relaxation.

Closing Prayer: Ginny shared "A Prayer to Learn to Love the World Again"

Meeting Adjourned: 8:13 pm