

# Garden City Community Church Council of Trustees Meeting

January 22, 2025

In-Person (Parlor, 245 Stewart Ave.) and Virtually

## *COT voting members present:*

Kirsten Bahlke	COT Chair	Virtually
Cindy Campbell	Ministry Committee	In-person
Tim Martens III	At Large - AV	Virtually
Karin Melkonian	Program Committee, Connections	Virtually
Robin Laisure	Finance & Administration Committee	Virtually

## *Nonvoting officers of the church present:*

Viki Rehkugler	Information Officer	In-person
Joe Stanco	Treasurer	Virtually

## *Clergy present:*

Rev. Bonnie McDougall Olson	Virtually
-----------------------------	-----------

## *COT voting members absent:*

Tara Noll–Socha	Program Committee, Education
-----------------	------------------------------

The meeting was called to order at 7:35am.

## **Opening Prayer: Rev. Bonnie.**

The minutes of the Council of Trustees meeting conducted on January 8, 2025 were approved.

- Discussion of Committee Slates
  - Ministry Committee
    - Bylaws require 5 members; we would be short if members come off based on completing their second 3-year term.
    - ACTION: Kirsten made a Motion that we establish an interim process to allow volunteer Committee members with expiring terms to stay on until a replacement is identified. Tim seconded. Motion carried.
  - Council Member discussion
    - Openings are for Information Officer, Membership, Ministry Committee, Programming- Connections

- Noted that if volunteers are reluctant to be both Chair of a committee and participate in Council Meetings, the Bylaws allow for a representative other than the Chair of a Committee sit on Council.
    - Meeting timing and location (Sundays vs. Weekday evenings) can be decided among those joining the Council.
  - ACTION: COT members reach out to potential candidates within 1 week.
    - Kirsten to reach out to Martha Yasso, Doug Yasso, Jen Gisolfi, and Liz McQuaid.
    - Karin to contact Janet Martens, Suzanne Roche and Roger Tusiani-Eng.
    - Robin to ask Maria Campese, and to ask Drew if he is willing to continue on F&A.
- Lay Delegates to Metro NY
  - ACTION: Robin to ask if Melva Victorino if she is willing to continue as Delegate and the Programming Committee - Adult Education Committee
- Annual Meeting pre – Budget Sharing and By-Laws Changes
  - ACTION: Kirsten will create the first draft of the Bylaws wording change so that it is ready to distribute to the Congregation.
  - ACTION: Kirsten will send message for Gloria to send out to Congregation notifying that there will be Bylaws changes and a Q&A after church in the Sanctuary February 9 and February 16
- Round robin updates
  - Joe received the Financial updates too late to provide a report.
  - Bonnie:
    - Met with Amanda
      - Discussed VBS
      - Crafts for 2 Sundays in the Summer – suggested more focus be put into Family Fun nights.
      - February 27 – Continental Breakfast for Nursery School parents, will hand out a tri-fold brochure
  - New Members – individuals on Council have been pursuing a couple of regular attendees directly, but no one has responded to the request for calling in to express

interest. There was discussion about adjusting the approach to invite discussion with a minister after church.

- Karin: no updates
- Tim: Looks forward to getting equipment updates for Livestream.
  - Bonnie asked about the Followers of the Garden City Community Church on the Vimeo/Livestream <https://livestream.com/accounts/14879187/followers>
  - ACTION: Tim and Viki to look into the Vimeo/Livestream followers page functionality.
- Robin: F&A meeting on December 17 was abbreviated; next meeting is next week January 27.

The next COT meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 4 at 7:30pm.

Meeting Adjourned 9:06pm

Respectfully submitted,

Viki Rehkugler

Information Officer