

FirstCoast Metropolitan Community Church
BOARD MEETING MINUTES – Monday, November 15, 2021 (recorded)
Current Board: Jackie Gascho, Julie Russell, Sandy Speck, Mari Gilman

BOARD PRESENT: Jackie Gascho, Interim Lay Pastor, Julie Russell, Vice Moderator, Mari Gilman, Treasurer, Sandy Speck, Clerk

BOARD ABSENT: none

OTHERS PRESENT: Hazel S, Lydia W, Carol N & Shirley V

Active Members: 47

TASK ITEMS

- The meeting began at 6:00 PM
- Pastor Jackie opened with prayer.

Review of the agenda.

1 Item was added as new business:

MOTION to Accept Agenda with the additional item Sandy/Mari, Motion Passed

CONSENT AGENDA REPORTS

CLERK'S REPORT

- Minutes from October 18, 2021, BOD meeting. (Mari)

MOTION to accept the August minutes Sandy/ Julie, Motion Passed

TREASURER'S/FINANCIAL REPORT (Mari)

- Reviewed weekly attendance numbers
 - October weekly average \$534
 - \$776 weekly YTD average (\$769 weekly Budget)
- Reviewed the Income & Expenses for October 2021
- October Taxes were paid to the IRS on 11/12 via online.
- October Assessment Report was completed and mailed to MCC on 11/05 with the check.

MOTION to accept the Treasurer's reports Mari/Sandy, Motion Passed

MINISTRY REPORTS AS NEEDED:

Service Ministry: Lydia provided the 20 bags needed in November for Dining With Dignity which Mari delivered. Will begin working on the December bags.

Received as Information.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

INTERIM LAY PASTOR REPORT:

- Continues to prepare and present sermons for all but one Sunday per month.
- Prepares the Midweek bulletin adding the Financials from Mari.
- Meets with mentor Danny Spears.
- Has phone calls with congregants.
- Leads a Bible study.
- Leads a book study.

Received as Information.

Meeting in Person & Copvid-19 Update

Holiday Inn Express has now told us that they can now not accommodate us for meeting in December and going forward.

Mari is talking with Marriott about using their space.

We will try to get a response from the Holiday Inn.

Discussed concern that there is so little response from congregants about meeting.

Received as information.

Carry Over Items:

Letter to Inactive Members Regarding the Status of their Membership

Letter to active members who we have not heard from for well over a year to remove them from our membership rolls to be provided by Sandy prior to next meeting with the changes suggested.

Proposed FC MCC ByLaw Changes

1) The number of BOD members (reduce 5 to 3) to match our reduced number of memberships of 50.

2) Replace absentee voting with voting via ZOOM.

MCC has suggested changes/additions. Those suggestion are already in our SOPs so really no need to add.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Membership Changes:** With Anna Hart requesting removal, our current Total Active Members is 47.
2. December **BOD Meeting** via zoom: The next meeting will be December 20, 2021, 6:00 PM.
3. **Monthly Outreach:** Council on Aging, earmarked for pet food for people receiving Meals On Wheels. **MOTION to accept Sandy/Julie, Passed**
4. **Virtual Membership Class:** Jackie has several folks who are interested in attending.

The meeting ended at 7:02 PM after closing in prayer by Jackie.

Meeting Minutes submitted by Sandy Speck, Clerk

Feedback from Survey Sent to All Members
Your FirstCoast BOD and Leaders need to hear from you!
Please take a moment and complete both sides and return.

1) **Would you be agreeable with Jackie staying on in her current role as Lay Pastor through 2022?**

Absolutely, as long as she gets breaks regularly.

Absolutely.

I unequivocally agree with Jackie staying on in her current role as Lay Pastor through 2022.

Definitely.

2) **What do you feel is our strength within FirstCoast MCC that keeps us going?**

The original members love and need for community.

Dedicated people and Zoom.

Mari & Jackie's willingness to keep leading, PODS, a few loyal members.

I feel that the strength within FirstCoast MCC that keeps us going is the leadership of Mari, Jackie and the BOD whose love of the members and friends is the catalyst that 'drives' the 'keeping us going' journey. Also, some members and friends of FirstCoast MCC participate regularly in various Zoom services that aid in the strength within.

Other Strengths; transparency of the Board of Directors relative to the business of the church. Also keeping members and friends abreast of various / specific of the workings of FC MCC by way of the weekly mid-week. Another strength: Board Meetings and the Sunday Social via Zoom are essential for keeping FirstCoast MCC 'participants' consistent and eager to connect.

3) **How are you willing to use your time, talents during the upcoming year (2022) to support our church?** Please list or complete the reverse side of this page.

Serving on the BOD, Blessing Bag Outreach Ministry

4) **During the past 16 months we've used the tools available to us and continued to offer each week Sunday Morning Worship live via Facebook.**

a. **How often have you joined us live?**

Every week

Every week when possible

I have joined live every Sunday

Every Sunday

b. **How often have you watched the service when your time allowed?**

Each week

Only if we missed it live

Have reviewed several even though attended live

c. **Do you have any feedback on the virtual worship services that you would care to share?**

I am so grateful for what we have. I cannot imagine anything better.

No, nicely done.

I think they have been thoughtfully planned and executed.

Without a doubt in my mind, I believe that if Mari Gilman and Jackie Gascho with their vision and love of FirstCoast MCC had not been at the helm to begin and consistently 'produce' the virtual worship services for FC MCC during the Covid-19 crisis/pandemic, FirstCoast MCC would not exist and 'live' as we know it.

The virtual worship services are instructive, inclusive, and nourishing. These services allow members and friends to remain connected and inspired as they hear 'The Word'.

5) **When it's safe to do so and we do begin Meeting In Person, do you plan to join us or do you plan to continue to catch the worship service via Facebook?**

I will meet in person, health permitting. I always plan on meeting in person.

Health Permitting, in person.

I plan to join the meeting in person service WHEN it is safe to do so and when we begin meeting in person.

As a Board Member, I plan to be there in person as well.

When I think of FirstCoast MCC, I am passionate about:

Keeping it going, we have a lot to do.

Keeping the church going.

The ability of the church to remain a source of what AND need for members, friends and the community to enable. FirstCoast MCC to live and grow.

I am passionate about our church surviving, our leaders and the future.

Mailing went out on 9/30 asking for feedback by 10/31:

- Mailed to 42 individuals
- Received responses back from **5 individuals**
- 12% Response