

**FirstCoast Metropolitan Community Church**  
**BOARD MEETING AGENDA**  
**Monday, May 17, 2021 – BOARD MEETING via ZOOM**

Following the Son in 2021

Current Board: Interim Lay Pastor Jackie Gascho – Moderator, Julie Russell-Vice Moderator,  
Sandy Speck -Clerk, Mari Gilman - Treasurer

*CURRENT ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP – 52*

**Opening Prayer**

**Review of Agenda & Motion to Accept**

**REPORTS**

**Clerk of Board Report**

1. Minutes from April 19, 2021 BOD Meeting (Sandy)

**Financial Report**

1. April 2021 Income & Expense Report (Mari)
2. Misc Items (Numbers, Taxes, Assessment Report)

**Ministry Area Reports (As Needed)**

1. Service Ministry

**Pastoral Transition Update**

1. Interim Lay Pastor Jackie

**Next location Plan Update**

1. Update from the meeting to discuss 'Next Location Planning Team' via Zoom

**Covid-19 & Meeting in Person Update**

1. Local Health Management Update from Dr Carol
2. Review and Update Current Plan as Needed
3. Update from Meeting to Discuss **Meeting in Person** Prep Plans

**CARRY OVER ITEMS / Updates**

1. Update of potential members to purge

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Membership Changes**
2. Monthly Outreach
3. June BOD Meeting June 21, 2021 via zoom@ 6 pm

**Close in Prayer**

**Closed Executive Session – if needed**

**FirstCoast Metropolitan Community Church**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES – Monday, April 19, 2021 (recorded)**  
**Current Board: Jackie Gascho, Mari Gilman, Julie Russell, Sandy Speck**

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

**BOARD ABSENT:** none

**LAY DELEGATES:** Jackie Gascho

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Hazel Simpson, Carol Novak, Shirley VanRy

**Active Members: 51**

**TASK ITEMS**

- The meeting began at 6:01 PM
- Pastor Jackie opened with prayer.
- Review of the agenda. Add #4 under New Business - Board training with MCC

**MOTION to Accept Agenda with additions Mari/ Julie. Motion Passed**

**CONSENT AGENDA REPORTS**

**CLERK'S REPORT**

- Minutes from March 15, 2021 BoD meeting. (Sandy)

**MOTION to accept the February minutes Sandy/Julie, Motion Passed**

**TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT April 19th BOD Meeting (Mari)**

- Reviewed weekly attendance numbers.
  - March weekly average \$1,028
  - \$1,136 weekly YTD average (\$769 weekly Budget)
- Reviewed the Income & Expenses for March 2021
- March Taxes were paid to the IRS on 4/13 via online. First Quarter 941s completed and mailed on 4/19.
- March Assessment Report was completed and mailed to MCC on 4/6 with the check.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter BOP (Board of Pensions) report completed and mailed to MCC on 4/6 with the check.

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

**MINISTRY REPORTS AS NEEDED:**

- **Service Ministry:** (Lydia and Mari: Blessing Bags) Nothing new to report  
**Received as information.**

**CONTINUING BUSINESS**

**Interim Pastor Report:** Spent time with Ruthie; visited Marge in the hospital; continues to make contact with congregants as possible and puts worship together. Attendance at last Sunday service

was exceptional maybe due to Julie preaching and overall, attendance is good, and we still get people from out of state. Apologized for using old hymns in the services but she does not get dinged by Facebook using them. In May, the focus will be on our history with clips of the band, chorus and chimers and with the Trivia questions also being history.

**Received as information.**

### **Next Location and Covid 19 Protocol Meeting Update:**

#### **Next Location:**

Mari: We continue to meet about every 3 weeks to review and provide updates on any new potential locations we could meet at. We have 2 potential locations that we are doing site visits with to finalize how many each facility can hold so we can recommend those locations to the BOD for distribution. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, 4/27<sup>th</sup>.

On March 24<sup>th</sup> Mari sent the official notification to Temple Bet Yam that we would not be using their facilities when we met back in person as we've been able to find other locations to meet that will meet our needs at this time. On 3/26 Phyllis responded back and acknowledged receipt (copy given to all BOD members for their BOD reference/manual). She shared that their Rabbi Nadia would not be returning next year as she has decided to stay in Canada where her parents are. They have a Rabbi search committee working hard to find a Rabbi for their congregation. They have no timeline as to when they may open their building and meeting in person at this time.

#### **COVID-19 Protocol:**

Mari: We continue to meet about every 3 weeks to review and update what the FirstCoast MCC COVID-19 Protocol would be. We are very close to wrapping up the document to be shared with a limited handful of reviewers for completeness before we share with members, the mid-week and website as to what the expectations will be when we meet in person.

We are also very close to recommending a date to begin meeting in person, one Sunday a month, with registration required to control the #s that the location can safely handle.

### **Local Health Management Update Covid-19 Monthly Update from Dr Carol Grigg 04/19/21: (This is copied from the email Carol sent to us)**

The GOOD NEWS is that almost 50% of US adults have received at least one dose of vaccine (which is considered quite protective in itself) and 25% have been fully vaccinated. Florida, however, is having an upswing in cases and deaths (111 yesterday) likely due to Spring Break and Bike Week gatherings, in addition to reopening of Theme Parks.

Even after being fully vaccinated, it is important, to mask and distance if possible, in public places. This is because the vaccine is effective 85-90% of the time, meaning that 15% of us can still contract the COVID virus from others, and continue to spread it. The likelihood of dying from this, however, is very slight, as there is still quite a bit of protection for all those vaccinated. Out of the millions of folks vaccinated so far, only about 5000 + have contracted COVID, and none have died.

**The CDC recommends groups (they call them PODS - LOL) can now meet without masking if all are vaccinated.**

The Johnson and Johnson vaccine has temporarily been removed, due to a very rare but deadly side effect IN WOMEN ONLY of blood clots within the brain. It has occurred in less than 1 in a million vaccinations, but with the abundance of vaccine available, it is probably not worth the risk, at the current time.

Try for Pfizer, Moderna, or Astra-Zenica vaccines. The message for all is to **GET VACCINATED WHEREVER AND WHENEVER YOU CAN.**

At the current time, over 3 million people have died around the world due to COVID, and the number is growing. Travel is still being restricted. The highest numbers are in Brazil and India. Some believe that the 560,000 deaths here in the US is the greatest number for any one country, but many countries (in Africa and South America) are overwhelmed and unable to count the dead (or even bury them), and some countries (Russia and Iran) are hiding the numbers, for political/defense purposes.

Do not be surprised to find that a booster shot to cover some of the variants may be recommended for next Fall. Sounds as if we can start doing some outdoor singing soon!!!!

Carol Grigg 4/19/21

**Insurance Coverage Update:**

(Mari) We are now covered Liberty Mutual Insurance for both our General Liability as well as our Pastoral Professional Liability for churches. The policy is from 3/26/2021 through 3/26/2022. Full cost was \$282.00 which was paid in full. Copies of pertinent details were provided to all BOD members for their reference books and the full policy is in the 'fireproof' file cabinet in storage.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Membership Changes: (Sandy) None

Discussion on whether to do a membership purge. Mari found only five people who may need to be removed. Sandy will work on composing a letter to send them.

2. May BoD Meeting: The next meeting will be May 17, 2021, 6:00PM.

3. Outreach: Jackie suggested SJC Humane Society (Clinic)

**Motion to donate to SJC Humane Society Sandy/Julie, Passed**

4. Board Training/Planning/Meeting with MCC. Will request 05/10/21, 4:00. Julie to send an email.

A explanation by Julie that Jackie is no longer on the board since she and Mari are in the same household and our bylaws do not allow that.

**The meeting ended at 7:00 PM after closing in prayer by Jackie.**

Meeting Minutes submitted by Sandy Speck, Clerk