

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT TO THE CONGREGATION  
JULY 2019 – JUNE 2020

An excerpt from the By-laws of the Unitarian Church of Barnstable describes the Parish Council:

*2. Parish Council (New 11/18/2018) The Parish Council coordinates and supports the activities of the on-going ministry of the Church. It is also the forum for the development of new initiatives. It is comprised of committees grouped into six coalitions: Communications, Lifespan Ministries, Programs, Social/Environmental Justice, Membership, and Worship. Its members are the Minister, the Parish Council Chair, a representative from each coalition and two members at large. The Council has a budgeted amount of money to allocate to committees for their work on behalf of our ministry. The Parish Council reports to the Governing Board. The Council sets up its own procedures, and meets once a month. At these meetings, committee coalitions interact to assure communication and unity of direction throughout the church. The Parish Council reports its activities and general plans to the Congregation.*

Parish Council held seven meetings over the last church year. With the departure of founding member, Aurora Winters, Jo Anne Miller Buntich became chair.

Council members are:

Karen Birely, Jo Anne Miller Buntich, Meredith Censullo, Bob Leaversuch, Susie Littlefield, and Mike Lorenz. Janet Abbott is the Governing Board liaison. Rev. Harper and deer sullivan attend each meeting. Dave Scandurra has agreed to be an at-large member.

**Parish Council Coalitions**

**Coalition Committees and Groups**

Communications

Chalice  
Website  
Social Media  
Outside Media

Lifespan Ministry

Children  
Youth  
Adult

Social/Environmental Justice

Social Outreach  
Green Sanctuary  
Welcoming Congregation  
St. Josephs House

Membership

Membership  
Caring

Worship

Special Worship  
Worship Associates  
Ushers  
Choir & Music  
Flowers

Programs

Arts  
Boutique  
Denominational Affairs  
Hospitality  
Men's Group  
WomanSpirit

Parish Council chose spilt plate recipients – Kind Hearts for Kids, Fenway Health Center Trans Support Group this year. The Spilt Plate program has been interrupted by COVID -19 protocols but will resume as soon as possible.

Welcoming Congregation recertification was successfully led by Rev. Harper. In January Parish Council began planning for an Open House event to be held in March which was then cancelled due to COVID-19. After skipping March and April meetings, in May the council began to reckon with the continued closing of the Church and anti-racism. Rev. Harper organized Community Connection calls and Zoom coverage for connection opportunities during July and August. Parish Council purchased a Black Lives Matter Flag from the Black Lives Matter organization. The flag will be displayed as soon as it is delivered.

Parish Council continues support of its Coalitions, Committees and Groups as we move through these uncertain times. We have offered to facilitate Zoom meetings for any group that wishes to meet. Parish Council meets each month via Zoom and will meet during the summer months this year. We hold you all in our hearts.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jo Anne Miller Buntich, chair