

UCM Covid-19 Partial Task Force Final Minutes
Informal “what’s next?” meeting 2/16/21

Present: John Bond, Kathleen Bryant, Allen Clark, Claudia Clark, Vic Guadagno, Scott Hess (facilitating), Judith Hinds (recording), Rev. Joan (hosting on Zoom), Tina Muncy. (Elaine Ball got us started on Zoom, then withdrew.)

There was no formal agenda. Allen was invited to explain the Property Committee’s thoughts about what physical changes might be needed before the building can reopen. John and Kathleen were asked for opinions regarding any state guidelines that might pertain to the reopening question. UUA guidelines for reopening were circulated in advance.

The Finance Committee and E.T. would benefit from having some idea of the cost of potential building improvements prior to finalizing next year’s budget. More people have been asking when the building will reopen. How will we decide?

Medical considerations: Vaccine supplies are limited. Even though VT’s numbers are starting to come down, herd immunity is still far away. Perhaps outdoor meetings could resume in the spring. What metrics will we use to determine when it’s safe for small groups to meet inside? Will vaccinated congregants have different standards from unvaccinated? Do all of the UUA Guidelines apply to UCM? Or only some?

Physical plant considerations: UCM has no ventilation system, and no air purification system. How important is this, i.e. what weight does it carry compared to other considerations? Allen presented the Property Ctee’s current thinking on what it would take to create ventilation and/or air purification in this building. See accompanying slides (pdf file called “UCM Ventilation Needs”). No cost estimates are available yet.

We decided it’s time to reconvene the whole Task Force to tackle these issues. Will try for Thu. 3/18/21 at 5:30 p.m. Scott will poll members.
(Note: Post-meeting, it was decided to meet sooner, on Wed. 3/3/21. Hold 3/18 for possible second meeting.)

Scott will draft an update for the e-news.

It seems clear we will be following the earlier UUA Guideline about remaining closed through May, but this is up to the E.T. We discussed it but made no formal recommendation. It should be on the agenda for the March meeting.