

UCM Covid-19 Task Force Final Minutes
Fourteenth meeting 4/1/21

Present: John Bond, Kathleen Bryant, Rhoda Chickering, Allen Clark, Claudia Clark, Barbara Conrey, Scott Hess (facilitating), Judith Hinds (recording), Rev. Joan, Tina Muncy (hosting on Zoom), Paul Ohlson, Leslie Parr, Janet Poeton, Noah Sexton.

Agenda:

- Changes to minutes of 3/18/21
- Changes to the agenda
- Comments/feedback from church members/community/Board/ET
- Updates on any changes to State guidelines
- Future of Community Lunch and Everyone Eats
- Air quality/ventilation update
- Discussion of current and future protocols for the physical church and gatherings
- Other business
- Next meeting

1. Changes to the Minutes

None

2. Changes to the Agenda

None

3. Feedback/Comments from Others

Capital City Orchestra and other renters have been querying Becky about fall dates for use of the building. The ET has said it's OK to pencil in dates, but not to make commitments or accept deposits.

4. State Guidelines

No discussion this time.

5. Community Lunch and Everyone Eats

When EE funding ends, the CL team plans to carry on as they did in December, with two volunteers working together in the kitchen with air purifiers operating. The difference this time will be that both volunteers must be vaccinated, and therefore would not necessarily be from the same family pod.

6. Air Quality/Ventilation Revisited

Barbara clarified that any work done now on the air duct system would not have to be done twice. This would be the first step toward the improvements envisioned under the BFF initiative. We will still need air ducts regardless of changes to the heating system. She made the case for the importance of good ventilation even if its direct impact on virus transmission can't be measured. Schools and other public institutions are using Covid funding for ventilation improvement. Therefore the Property Ctee. is continuing to explore cost and timeline issues with contractors.

The Task Force endorses and recommends this approach, as we believe UCM should do everything possible to enhance health and safety in the building. However, we do not think reopening the building should be contingent upon the ventilation work being completed. (See next item for discussion of criteria for reopening.)

7. Current and Future Protocols

Should we require vaccinations? Is that “welcoming all?” What about the kids? What about the staff? John and Kathleen pointed out that workplaces are not requiring employees to be vaccinated. We should begin with the UUA criteria and possibly incorporate some of the ideas from the Rockford, IL, UU church. We should also look at:

<https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/your-community/communities-faith>.

Once we have a preliminary protocol, we might try a pilot reopening for small groups.

A sub-group of our TF will draft a protocol to be considered by the full TF. Members are Scott, Judith, John, and Noah. Kathleen and Barbara will serve in an advisory capacity. We will try to have a draft available before/by the next TF meeting.

8. Other Business

None

9. Next Meeting: Thu. April 15th at 5:30 pm.