

UCM Covid-19 Task Force Final Minutes
Sixteenth meeting 4/29/21

Present: John Bond, Kathleen Bryant, Rhoda Chickering, Allen Clark, Claudia Clark, Barbara Conrey, Liza Earle-Centers, Vic Guadagno, Kellie Walker Hart, Scott Hess (facilitating), Judith Hinds (recording), Rev. Joan, Tina Muncy (hosting on Zoom), Paul Ohlson, Janet Poeton, Noah Sexton.

Agenda:

- Changes to minutes of 4/15/21
- Changes to the agenda
- Comments/feedback from church members/community/Board/ET
- Updates to State or CDC guidelines
- Review of the subcommittee's Covid reopening plan draft 1.7
- Air quality/ventilation update
- Review FAQ draft (Judith/Claudia)
- Messaging – keeping congregation informed – keeping ventilation separate?
- Other business
- Next meeting

1. Changes to the Minutes

None

2. Changes to the Agenda

Add chalice lighting and opening reading (Joan).
Add request from Scott to have a Board rep at each of our meetings.
Add discussion of Outdoor Guidelines under Other Business.

3. Feedback/Comments from Others

Lots of people are asking when UCM will reopen the building.

4. State Guidelines

The CDC is moving ahead with new guidance on outdoor mask removal and standards for vaccinated people. Vermont is moving more slowly, but additional changes may be announced tomorrow.

5. Review of the subcommittee's reopening plan draft 1.7

This draft clarifies that metrics are based on Vermont as a whole, for consistency, since county figures are not always available.

We decided today to change “Singing is not permitted” to “Group singing is not permitted” (under Phase One). We will use the name “Air Quality Project” moving forward, i.e. eliminate the word “ventilation” and the word “remediation” for clarity and consistency.

Version 1.8 will be sent to the ET this weekend for them to approve and post on the website.

Recommendation to ET and Staff: When we reach Phase One, renters should be given more specific Covid-related guidelines in addition to the package they already receive. Among other things, they should be instructed to stay out of the basement.

For information, Allen used the six-foot diameter template to figure out how many individuals could actually be accommodated in the sanctuary under Phase One guidelines. The pews create additional barriers, so the number appears to be around 28 – much less than 50% capacity.

6. Air Quality/Ventilation Revisited

Barbara, Allen and Paul received word from the asbestos analysis that the tape on the duct joints definitely contains a high level of asbestos. It should not be disturbed until/unless the project is ready to proceed with removal of tape and ducts, followed immediately by installation of new ducts, followed by air quality testing. The building should be unoccupied during this stage of the work. Professional asbestos abatement requires PPE, negative air pressure, and HEPA filters.

7. Review FAQ Draft

So far the FAQ's cover only the air quality project. Joan will send her suggested revisions to Claudia and Judith. The remaining FAQ's may be divvied up among various groups for answers to be drafted, e.g. ET, staff, worship team... TBD.

8. Messaging

Reopening Guidelines will be finalized and posted on the website by the ET this week.

Air Quality FAQ's will be finalized and posted on the website by the ET this week.

Remaining FAQ's will be assigned and drafted a.s.a.p.

There will be a breakout session during coffee hour this week (5/2) and next (5/9) to discuss reopening issues. Several of us should attend these sessions.

9. Other Business – Outdoor Guidelines

We reviewed the existing version dated 9/3/20. Changes will include singing with masks and distancing, off-site meetings, and deletion of the wording about hugging, handshaking, and wiping down bathroom surfaces. Joan and Liza will send their suggested wording to Judith. Suggested revisions will be transmitted to the ET for their approval and dissemination.

10. Next Meeting: Thu. May 13th at 5:30 pm.