

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ASHFIELD, UCC
Trustees' Minutes
July 29, 2025 at 7:00 PM via Zoom

**Present: Ted, Annie (scribe), Hetty, Richard, Sam, Holly
Ann Gibson, Treasurer**

Ted led the meeting with an opening prayer.

Old Business

1. Minutes from June 3, 2025 were approved by all.
2. Financial review led by Ann Gibson. In a low cash flow period right now, so Ted will transfer the balance of Reserve funds to checking account. Some maintenance expenses are coming in a little higher than budget allows. We'll keep our eyes on it, and stock market is yielding good returns now.
3. Building/maintenance/repair issues and status
 - Podium modification has been made and is working well according to Richard.
 - Couple of small leaks in attic. Sam will follow up with roofer.
 - July building inspection successful and certificate posted by Jeff.
4. Holly will have updated job description for Sexton before September meeting.
5. New office computer is set up. Virginia is working with Tony Jillson. Working to make bookkeeping transition. Switching software from QuickBooks to Quicken. QB is very expensive and more powerful than what we need. Keeping old and new computers working now, and will take next 3 months making the final switch. Bing will put in extra time and asks to be paid for 5 extra hours, and will donate any time over that. Expenses will come in under the budgeted \$1,800.
6. Microphone for sanctuary music for Zoom a problem for one person, but only one person. No need to change anything with Annette.
7. Discussion about painting Friendship Hall. Left it that Patricia should talk with Jeff about this project. Holly asks that Deacons also be consulted about color. Richard/Holly will follow up with Patricia.
8. Agreed that we would discuss exterior painting for next year's budget. Steeple needs painting. Richard/Holly will talk with Jeff about this.

New Business

9. We voted on the quarterly distribution from Clarke Fund. **Motion: It is moved to transfer \$4,440 from the Clarke Fund at Vanguard to the church's operating budget. All voted in the affirmative.**
10. Transformation process: new facilitator from the UCC and meet with her tomorrow. Holly will check to see if people from the Transformation Team meet with Trustees on Sept. 2.
11. Ann Gibson proposed that we refresh the parking lot lines before winter. Motion: To spend up to \$200 for this project. Approved by all.

Next meetings: Sep 2, Oct 7, Nov 4, Dec 2

Closing Prayer was led by Holly.

