



Alumni/ae Gathering, April 13, 2016

11:00 a.m. – Peck Room

Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Dan Baker, Hazel Roper, Bob MacFarlane, Dirkje Legerstee, Joyce Duerr, Allen Vander Meulen, John Brock, Kelly Donahue, Charles Purinton, Barbara Purinton, Joyce Morin, Virginia Child, Madelyn Hennessey, Henry Gates, Philip Mayfield, Gary Strichartz, Bill Geertz, Jim Leavitt, Ellie Richardson, Stephanie Kelsch, Karen Hodges, Nancy Lois, Cleo Graham, Peg Carroll, Ruth Edens, Jonah Beukman

Joyce called the meeting to order at 11:08 a.m. Allen reported that even though there were only 24 alumni/ae in attendance, a quorum could be reached due to online voting.

The current alum board members introduced themselves.

- **Joyce Morin** is a 1987 graduate of Andover Newton who has worked in various churches and businesses in her career. She is an American Baptist and member of the First Baptist Church of Jamaica Plain. Her role on the alumni/ae board has been creating mentorships with students.
- **Cleo Graham** is a pastor in the United Church of Christ and currently serves the Beneficent Church in Providence, RI as a community minister. Prior to that, she worked as a Nurse Practitioner. Andover Newton is important to Cleo because of accommodations the school made when she was struggling with a serious injury, and she is eager to serve and give back.
- **Allen Vander Meulen** is a pastor with the Community Church of Pittsfield, MA and is a 2013 graduate of Andover Newton. He is a member of the United Church of Christ and worked in Information Technology in a previous career. He sees his role on the alumni/ae board as providing institutional and community continuity.

Cleo asked each of the nominees to tell us why they were interested in being a member on the board and what role they would play as future members.

- **Virginia Child** is a 1980 and 1986 graduate of Andover Newton. She was a previous staff member of the school, working in church relations and enrollment, where she met many alums and students. Virginia is the current intern minister at a church in Bethany, CT.
- **Bob MacFarlane** is a 1971 graduate of Andover Newton. He grew up in Waltham, MA and is a 4th generation member of the United Church of Christ. Bob is passionate about Andover Newton and supporting students in parish ministry.

- **Madelyn Hennessey** is a 1982 graduate of Andover Newton. She previously worked as an English teacher and currently resides in Maine. She has an interest in supporting the school during this changing time and is happy to have the time in her life to do so.
- **Karen Hodges** is a 2011 and 2012 graduate of Andover Newton. She works as a street minister and supports the homeless population. She sees her role on the alum board as being part of the reimagining of Andover Newton in its future state.
- **Dan Baker** is a 2015 graduate of Andover Newton. While a student here, he was always involved and cherished the community feeling, which has continued for him after graduation. He sees his role on the alum board as being part of the visioning for the future of the school.
- **Philip Mayfield** is a 1963 graduate of Andover Newton. His purpose as a minister has been to enhance parish life, and he has become a donor to the school as of late. Becoming a donor has allowed him to gain a new sense of purpose at Andover Newton, and he hopes to support alums in this transitional time and re-engage lapsed alums.
- **Kurt Walker** is a 2010 graduate of Andover Newton. He hopes that his role on the alumni/ae board will allow him to serve our alums in this transition. He feels that Andover Newton has a bright future and is particularly interested in supporting the school's farewell to Newton and welcome to Yale.
- **Peter Christian Olsen** is a 1969 graduate of Andover Newton. He serves as spiritual care director at Genitiva Hospice in San Marcos, TX. Since he lives in Texas, he was unable to attend the meeting today.

Joyce led the vote to approve the new members of the board. Barbara Purinton made a motion to approve the slate as described above, and Joyce Duerr seconded the vote. The group accepted the initial vote. Dirkje Legerstee made a motion to approve the 119 online votes, which was seconded by Bob MacFarlane and accepted by the group.

The group was informed that Martin would be available to speak at lunch about the transition and answer any questions. Joyce endorsed the Andover Newton Next Chapter Facebook group as another source for information and discussion.

Allen voted to adjourn the meeting, and the group accepted this vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonah H. Beukman

April 13, 2016