

TRUSTEES OF THE PRESBYTERY

TO: Presbytery of Boston Assembly
FROM: Trustees of the Presbytery
RE: Report to the Assembly
DATE: December 14, 2023

The Trustees of the Presbytery do not have resolutions for action at this Assembly of the Presbytery. Following is information drawn from our work since the last Assembly.

1. Presbytery is in receipt of a \$10,000 gift from the Whitinsville church. Session restricted the funds in the letter of transmittal. The full \$10,000 is to be credited to the Presbytery's Endowment. The Session further specified that it was to be added to the John Gilchrist Endowment Fund and used for the purposes of the fund.

It was noted that the Gilchrist fund was established by a bequest in 1884 and is Donor Restricted as to corpus, \$10,000, and purpose, "Funds, net income and interest therefrom, to be used to pay for or the assistance of any new Presbyterian Church in the Presbytery of Boston, the same to be devoted to the erection of a church edifice, or to assist any other church in the Presbytery of Boston in paying off its indebtedness for erection or construction."

The Trustees accepted the gift, placed a resolution of thanks in its minutes, agreed to the Session's stipulations and credited the funds to the John Gilchrist Endowment Fund.

Funds for this gift were received by Whitinsville from a bequest. The work of Elders over years nurtured the gift. The Session's success is witness to the abilities and opportunities inherent in all our Sessions. Is your Session trained to nurture bequests as part of your stewardship plan? Are you ready to invite a gift of a lifetime from your members?

2. Loans underwritten by Presbytery for Clarendon Hill and Worcester were paid in full. Partial support for the pay-offs was offered by the John Gilchrist Fund. (For more information about the Fund please see above.) The Trustees and Council celebrate the success of both Sessions and congregations. It's promissory note burning time!! (Send in the balloons and cake!!)
3. Presbytery is in receipt of a mystery gift. Maybe you made the gift and want to remain anonymous?

Here are the facts. Mid-way through last month Presbytery received a US Treasury check dated 10/31/23 drafted in Kansas City. The amount? \$1,172.95. Nothing accompanied the check when it was received in the Quincy office.

So far this year individual donors have gifted to the Presbytery more than \$7,000. Some of the gifts have arrived via electronic means. Others have sent physical checks, some on a weekly or monthly basis. A few of us have gifted Qualified Charitable Distributions from a 401(k) account. We thank each. And who do we thank for the anonymous Treasury check?

Are you the mystery giver?

TRUSTEES OF THE PRESBYTERY

4. The Treasurer reviewed and renewed insurance coverages for the Presbytery during the period. A component of this review was coordination with the Presbytery of Southern New England (PSNE) on coverages due the Stated Clerk. In a sign of cooperation, the PSNE underwrote the Workers Comp for the joint Stated Clerk's position. Thank you PSNE!
5. The Trustees focused on the Needham Project during the period.

The Trustees received correspondence from Primera Iglesia Presbiteriana indicating the Session's desire to take next steps in the journey toward assuming stewardship of the Needham property.

A step in that journey is a robust building inspection for use by Session and Trustees.

The Trustees received and reviewed a proposal from Hogan Associates, Building and Environmental Consultant, LLC. We authorized the expenditure of up to \$6,400 from the temporarily restricted Needham Fund for purposes of obtaining the building inspection. The inspection was done on December 8. A report from Hogan Associates is pending.

A discussion of capital expenditures is docketed for our January meeting.

The Trustees were in receipt of input from Tobin Beaudet Schools concerning fencing on the Needham property. The Trustees asked Ruling Elder Thatcher Freeborn to work out a solution with Primera Iglesia, Donnie Dick and Tobin Beaudet Schools.

6. A Session-by-Session review of '23 per capita giving was completed. Only one Session had forgotten to support the per capita budget. Lisa Carlin and Ben Chicka will update Sessions before the end of year. Thank you for a good start to '23 per capita giving.
7. The Trustees learned that the cut-off for '23 contributions and expenses will be January 15, 2024. Presbytery will receive checks and pay invoices for 2023 even after the calendar page has turned to 2024. Last call? January 15, in Karen Keenan's hand, via the Quincy office address!
8. As of December 7, total (composite) net receipts by the Presbytery were positive. Presbytery operations, Presbytery Mission and Project Needham all have net positive income versus expense. NE GLOW, however, does not. If you are thinking about a special gift to the Presbytery, why not remember NE GLOW? Give generously, please.
9. Trustees and Council celebrated the successful transition to the new pattern of Presbytery Treasurer and Treasury Services, including the election of Lisa Carlin and the seven-month service of Ruling Elder Ken Dewar. Thank you, Lisa and Ken!

Respectfully reported,
Rev. Ken Grant, Chair