

(The July minutes were approved at the August 7, 2024 Church Council meeting.)

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Church Council Minutes

July 11, 2024, 6:30pm

Call to Order – Called by Jodi Cowen, Moderator, at 6:35 p.m.

Jodi Cowen, Tracy Greymont, Bill Bond, Phil Stepanski, Shandy Roehrig, Amy Gilhooly (staff), Louise Mollinger, Nancy Hinneberg, Matt Riemer, and Rhonda Thompson.

Opening Meditation – Jodi

Welcome to New Council Members

Open Council Positions: Tracy has been elected to serve as the Associate Moderator. Therefore, the Liturgy team representative is now an open Council position.

Approval of the Council Minutes – June 2024 (Rhonda)- Shandy motions to approve the June minutes and Tracy seconds the motion. The minutes are approved.

Review of the Spring Congregational Meeting Minutes- A few clarifications were made and the minutes are ready for approval at the next Congregational meeting in the fall.

Treasurer financial Updates (Phil) - Every month Phil hopes to share a Budget versus Actual and Statement of Financial Positions Report. The accountant, Kris, provides the reports.

-Some of the 2023 Mission payments need to be paid yet. Phil will send Kris the amounts for each of the six local missions as well as Our Church's Wider Mission amounts.

-Financial Statements - Gross Profit total of \$37,697 (2024 Budget is \$34,478), Total Expenditures come to \$35,187 (2024 Budget is \$45,812). The checking account has a balance of \$17,186.50, the Memorial savings account (line 10010 as the name should be Mission not Memorial) has a balance of \$4,863.00; the Cornerstone account balance is about \$25,000; the savings account balance is \$34,530.91 and the Scrip checking account balance is \$2,529.53. Phil found a document from the Southeast Association stating 2024 dues owed are \$1908. Phil will look into how much money has been collected for the windows. July 2024 was the last month for the EFT deposit transaction collections for Making All Things New.

- Edward Jones account setup is a work in progress.
- Phil mentions that there are two file cabinets, one is locked, and one is not, for important records. Nancy was a certified records manager.

Old Business

Property Team -Bill would like to create a Property Team email to use for communication with business related to property needs.

·Elevator Repairs Update- We owe MEI \$17,000, that leaves \$17,000 due upon completion. We owe Otis \$12,000. Bill says it would be good to take a total of \$66,000 out for the loan on the elevator repair. Phil will contact Cornerstone to start the loan process.

·Stained Glass Window Repairs- The repair company will be here as soon as they finish their current project. They will remove the stained glass windows needing repair, board them; do the window repairs in Onalaska and then put them back.

·Building Usage and Fee Schedule, Alcohol Policy (Property Team)-Nothing to report.

New copier (Phil) - The new copier is ordered. The projected set up is roughly 30 days from the order date. Phil set it up so Kris would have access to print from the copier.

Transition Plans -

·Interim Pastor update (Jodi)-We have interviewed four and no longer have any of them as candidates. We are waiting to hear back from the conference for additional candidates.

·Assembling a Search Committee (Shandy/Jodi)-Shandy is working with Joe Mueller, past Search Committee Chair, in collecting helpful information for the upcoming Search Committee. The Search Committee team will need a leader, a secretary and a diverse team that represents the members of the congregation. The Search Committee will present to the Council any updates. The budget will need to be figured out by the Council in order to create a package with pay and benefits before posting the position with UCC.

·Pulpit Supply (Tracy)

·Dates needed for Greeting Guest Leader and Making Sunday morning Announcements - Jodi will take July 21 and Phil will do July 28 for meet and greet with announcements. Pulpit supply is set through September 1 with the exception of Aug 11. Once we get a handle on the program year, Tracy will make the next round of calls to start filling in the fall Sundays.

·Announcements should include Council updates on things like, elevator, transition, window, financial and any collections/drive needs.

Rental Option - Prime Horizon Adult Day Services

·Trial short- term rental 6 weeks: 7/15 - 8/31. They are looking to expand their program and considering the use of our facility to help with the expansion. We'd like to start a trial as a short-term rental to let us both see if this is a good fit.

Tracy motions to move forward with a short-term rental at \$50 a day fee for the trial with Prime Horizon. Bill seconds the motion. The motion is unanimously approved.

·We will use facilities usage agreement to use for the short term. Prime Horizon will add us to their insurance policy, which seems to be common practice.

·Need to determine day-to-day logistics- We will need some additional cleaning services and they will do some light cleaning as well. They will have a set of keys and access to the building without one of us needing to be here. Jodi will clarify if they need kitchen access in this trial.

·Shandy motions to allow Prime Horizon permission to go ahead with contacting DHS for a walk through. Nancy seconds the motion. Bill would like to see the results of the report. Jodi will ask Gene to share a copy with us. The motion is unanimously approved.

Additional Team Updates

New Business

Program year planning - what committees need to start up what activities and when? This will be an agenda item for August. What will the program year look like with pulpit supply and/or an interim pastor. It might be fitting to decide month to month.

Pampered Chef fundraiser proposal (Nancy)-Pampered Chef is offering double donations in the month of August. Based on sales, Pampered Chef would offer a check for 20-30% of the sales (if sales reach \$650 it's 30%) and Nancy would donate 20%; 50% would come to the church. The members would get a link to view the products; cooking demos and some virtual kitchens; everything is online. Phil motions to go ahead with the Pampered Chef fundraiser. Louise seconds the motion. The vote passes unanimously.

Any other new business to come before the Council? There is a party for Betty Bollinger on July 28 for her 100th birthday.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment 8:44 p.m.

Submitted by, Rhonda Thompson - Clerk