

# APPROVED APRIL CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

(The April Minutes were approved at the May 12, 2022 meeting.)

## FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH Church Council Minutes April 21, 2022

Call to Order By Jeanne Mantsch @ 6:30 PM

Pastor Scott, Jeanne Mantsch, Phil Stepanski, Mike Spalding, Jason Jacque, Jennifer Dimmer, Eric Olson, and Rhonda Thompson. Joining from online Kathy Bretl and Savannah

Opening Meditation – Eric Olson

Approval of the Minutes – March, 2022 -Jennifer motions to approve the March minutes and Eric seconds the motion. The minutes are approved.

Monthly Budget Review (Phil/Kathy) – There are some inaccuracies in the monthly report, like Scott McLeod's salary is not reported; paid but not entered into Quickbooks. Phil is creating procedures/process for bill approval, payment, reconciling accounts. Then reconciling all accounts and bringing them up to date. He's working on bringing chart of accounts and budgeted item accounts into alignment. Pastor Scott discussed moving Christmas Tree Sale Income to "off budget" so it is not part of the 10% tithe and moving S.E Association Dues into the 10% Mission Expense Tithe. Mike asked about music expense that was donated by Memorial Gift. Discussion took place on the idea of a May fundraiser called "Church Giving Tree"- extra donations for church expenses could be posted up on a board. Members would be encouraged to take one and give the church a gift.

Pastor's Moment (Pastor Scott)- Over 45 people have filled out the Ministry Options volunteer form. Pastor Scott is hopeful that there are some new people interested in helping.

### **Old Business**

Capital Campaign- Pastor Scott is working on finding team member's. Andrew Warner from WI Conference office is willing to work with us in bringing campaign forward as soon as we are ready.

Building maintenance updates – (Bill)-Otis Elevator made repairs following Palm Sunday malfunction. The committee will be presenting a proposal regarding larger preventive maintenance issues on 30 year old elevator.

Review of recent events – card making, cinnamon buns (Jennifer)- Jennifer reported new faces at craft events and on Palm Sunday.

Scrip sales progress – (Rhonda)-Jennifer stated that approval was granted from Great Lakes Scrip. She was able to place an online order. Phil has set up a separate bank account for gift card payments and monies collected. Some delivery logistics still need to be worked out. After a trial run it will be promoted for members to set up accounts/order gift cards and begin earning rebates that will help support funds within the church as needed.

Port Pre-school and the future – any updates? None.

Replacement of Associate Moderator-Jason Jacque will step in to finish the few months of Phil's term.

*(continued on the next page)*

# CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES continued...

Lighthouse Youth Ministry board of directors' representatives/ Lighthouse (Savannah)- Savannah was please to announce that she approached Dawn Guschl and Tina Olson asking them to join her for the next meeting as new board of director members. A new youth minister was offered the position. It's believed they may start with the beginning of the new school year.

## New Business

Annual reports from team leaders for June meeting- The Annual meeting is Sunday June 26<sup>th</sup>. New officers will be elected at that time. Team leaders from each committee are asked to create a report of the year's happenings (historical record) and turn them in to Beckie no later than June 12.

Fund raising team?-Any and all fundraisers are welcome. Jennifer has been quick to jump on some ideas and gathering information on possibilities. A team could be formed at a later date as ideas need execution.

Any other new business to come before the Council?- Eric says "thanks" for all donations on the Paper Drive for Family Promise. It's possible they'll try one more drive before the summer. June is Pride Month; Justice Team is planning events for month. Mike motions to fly the Rainbow Pride flag the month of June. Jennifer seconds the motion. The vote is approved. Pastor Scott will ask Property team where it would be possible to mount the flag on the outside of the building.

Phil has stated that Quickbooks needs proof of ownership or right to take over as administrator of the business account. Moderator (chairperson), Jeanne Mantsch, of First Congregational Church moves that Phil Stepanski is admitted as the primary administrator of the Quickbooks account for First Congregational Church. Jason seconds the motion. The vote is approved and Phil Stepanski is now the primary administrator.

Savannah motions to adjourn, Kathy seconds it. Meeting is adjourned 8:00PM.

.....

## ANNUAL ASSOCIATION MEETING REPORT FROM JEANNE MANTSCH

The SE Association of the Wisconsin Conference UCC Annual Meeting took place on May 7th at Brookfield Congregational Church. The gathering began with worship lead by Rev. Laura McLeod, which was followed by the annual business meeting. One of the primary pieces of business is the passage of the budget for the coming year.

The keynote speaker, Thomas Thibodeau is a professor at Viterbo University in LaCrosse, Wisconsin. He is the founder of the Master of Arts in Servant Leadership, the first master's degree of its kind in the nation, and also a founding member of hospitality and fellowship resource Place of Grace, in La Crosse. He was an inspiring speaker who also led one of the workshops after lunch, Honing in on Servant Leadership, which I attended. I also had the unexpected opportunity to spend more time chatting with him during lunch, which we spent outside on a park bench on the lovely Brookfield Congregational Church's grounds. The other workshops offered were Living Together in Diversity and Calming the Storm - navigating the waters of church conflict.

Submitted by Jeanne Mantsch (Attendee)