

# APPROVED MARCH CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

(The March Minutes were approved at the April 21, 2022 meeting.)

## FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH Church Council Minutes March 10, 2022

Call to Order By Jeanne Mantsch @ 7:01 PM

Pastor Scott, Jeanne Mantsch, Mike Spalding, Ric Probst, Jennifer Dimmer, Kathy Bretl, Jason Jacque, Phil Stepanski, Eric Olson, Bill Bond, and Rhonda Thompson

Opening Meditation – Jason Jacque- a prayer for Ukraine

Approval of the Minutes – February, 2022 - Phil motions to approve the February minutes with an amended clarification and Mike seconds the motion. The minutes are approved with the change.

Monthly Budget Review (Phil/Kathy) – There are several notes from Loraine with adjustments that she's waiting for the accountant to make.

Pastor's Moment (Pastor Scott) – The Ash Wednesday service went well with good attendance. The bible studies and Wednesday night services have also been well attended.

### **Old Business**

Capital Campaign - Pastor Scott met with Rev. Andrew Warner, Director of Development with the United Church of Christ Wisconsin Conference and he felt it was a realistic goal to reach between \$100,000 and \$200,000 with the giving units we have. Andrew recommended we build some seed money into an endowment/legacy with the campaign. He suggested creating a team and campaign before the end of March. Then creating a proposal for the congregation in April to begin promoting the end of April or first of May with a summer start. Jeanne likes idea of folding UCC Legacy into the campaign. He also advocated to give 10% of raised funds to UCC conference ministry project.

Building maintenance updates – (Bill) -Team talked about snow removal, there are enough people who volunteered to help with removal for the rest of the season. Mike Dimmer was volunteered to mow the lawn. Jenny Schlenvogt, (snow/lawn service) will gladly stay on standby for as needed basis. All seasonal HVAC work was completed. Bill would like to meet with Phil to establish a procedure to keep repair estimates, budget and spending in line. The etched glass at the north entrance has a crack and the family that purchased it, is willing to pay for the repair. It's just a matter of finding some company capable of the repair.

Review of 2nd Fellowship Dinner (Jennifer) -The chili dinner was last month and had more attendees. They'll host another card making event Sunday March 27<sup>th</sup> from noon to 2:00 pm. There will be cinnamon rolls for Palm Sunday. They were thinking about having a church picnic at the end of the school year, May 22.

Port Pre-school and the future – any updates? - There are no updates.

Lighthouse Youth Ministry board of directors' representatives/ Lighthouse (Savannah) – Is currently reviewing what was working. They've tried having a conversation with our student members to see what they would like the program to be. Monday the board made a proposal to hire a new youth leader.

# CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES continued...

Change in Financial Administrator – Kathy announces the new financial administrator, Phil Stepanski. Kathy motions for Phil's start date to be retro active from 3/1/22 and Lorraine has access, including online till 3/31/22. Jennifer seconds the motion. The vote is approved.

Covid restrictions relaxed – Phil mentions that the Covid numbers have been falling. The Reopening Committee has considered the numbers and open with relaxing and eliminating restrictions. In accordance with the February 25<sup>th</sup> guidelines of the Washington-Ozaukee Public Health Department and the CDC for counties whose Covid risk level is “low”, our Covid policy is now as follows: All restrictions requirements and mandates are no longer in force. For the love of your neighbor, we request that you please stay up to date with Covid 19 vaccinations and get tested if you have symptoms. You may choose to wear a mask at any time. If you are immunocompromised or otherwise at risk of serious disease, please consult your physician regarding appropriate safety precautions. Anyone not feeling well should consider others and stay home. Jason motions to accept the committee's recommendation as it's written. Ric seconds the motion. Bill asks if we have any idea how many are still watching the recorded services. Recordings will continue. The vote is approved. This will be emailed and posted to get the word out.

Responses from the congregation re: opportunities to be involved? - Only 14 have filled out the survey thus far, but starting to fill in some of the gaps.

Fundraisers – Scrip? - We'd like to proceed with the fundraiser. Kathy motions to open a separate checking account for the Fellowship Team to run the Scrip fundraiser with a beginning balance of \$2000. Mike seconds the motion. The vote is approved.

Any other new business to come before the Council? - Pastor Scott would like some of the Council to come to the New Member Classes March 13 and 20 at 6pm. There are 5-7 new members.

Poll – meet earlier? - Does it work to meet at 6:30? Everyone is okay with changing it to 6:30 instead of 7.

## **On Hold**

UCC Legacy Program (Jason)

Kathy motions to adjourn, Bill seconds it. Meeting is adjourned 8:31PM.

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## **MORE CONGRATULATIONS**

To our high school Seniors who were honored at the Kiwanis High Honors Banquet at Port Washington High School on April 20 for their academic achievement: Ella Gilhooly, Elijah Perez, Gabe Pasten, Brielle Bertler, Brady Fleishmann, Jakub Micha, Brayden Thompson and Peyton Yellen.

To our high school Juniors who were honored at the Kiwanis High Honors Banquet at Port Washington High School on April 20 for their academic achievement: Caitlin Calder, Connor Cowen, Sydney Garthus, Ella Hoffmann and Emma Kasza-James.

To our high school Sophomores who were honored at the Kiwanis High Honors Banquet at Port Washington High School on April 20 for their academic achievement: Macy Eslinger, Elaine Holmes, Joshua Jacque, and Tessa Yandry.