

Hope United Church of Christ Council Meeting Minutes – July 2015

DATE: July 16, 2015

ATTENDEES: Andy, Randy, Kristine, Erik, Jennifer, Susan R, Robbie, Paul, Pastor Ed, Pastor Sarah

ABSENTEES: Bethel, Dave, Susan M, Alice

NEXT STEPS/FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS:

1. Kristine to request letter of support from Ward 16 alderwoman for Chef David.
2. Erik and Building/Property to put up new safety signs in kitchen.
3. Council members to email ideas to Andy to assist in welcoming gestures for visitors on special occasions (i.e. baptisms)
4. Andy to follow up with Gina and Alice on some financial codes.
5. Paul, Dave and Kristine to help form a committee for this year's stewardship campaign.
6. Randy to follow up on outside mailbox installation.
7. Special Council Meeting on Thursday, July 23rd at 7:00 pm.

GENERAL NOTES:

OPENING

The meeting was opened by Andy at 7:10 pm. Pastor Sarah led us in an opening prayer.

MINUTES

Minutes of the June 18, 2015 Council Meeting were approved with minor edits.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Robbie presented the monthly financial reports for June 2015. Giving is slightly increased from last year at the six month period. Expenses are running under budget for the year. VBS money is being pulled from PayPal in July. A coding question was brought up regarding Sarah's health reimbursement. Andy will follow up with Gina and Alice. Income was down in June.

PASTORS' REPORT

A written report was distributed by Pastor Ed and Pastor Sarah. The calendar was reviewed and vacations were highlighted. Coverage is being set up for office vacations. Also, Pastor Sarah reminded all to sign up for the photo directory.

OLD BUSINESS

Kitchen Rental

Erik reported that some work on the stove was still needed and is scheduled. A new fire extinguisher was ordered. Safety signs will be added to the kitchen. For safety, the fan must be turned on every time the stove is used. A suggestion was made that all who use the kitchen should go through mini-training on the new kitchen. A public hearing for Chef David's use of the kitchen has been scheduled for July 29 at 1:30 pm. Kristine will reach out to the Ward 16 alderwoman for a letter of support.

Faith Response to Violence

Two reports were made. Pastor Sarah reported that Martha Robertson attended a meeting for Sacred Conversation on Race at Eden Seminary. There were 25 people from 10 congregations that attended. This was an organizational meeting only. The next meeting will be on Aug 13th. Erik reported that he and Pastor Sarah met with Pastor Kendra from Gethsemane Lutheran church about a potential partnership to focus on gun violence. The outcome was the plan for an educational event with either a speaker or film/book discussion.

Robbie is scheduling a visit to Lift for Life Gym to see if there are any volunteer opportunities. She will report back at August meeting.

Andy suggested that Council form a small committee or have a special meeting to review the ideas going forward.

Stewardship and Finance

Pastor Ed and Pastor Sarah reviewed a list of names for Stewardship and Finance Ministry Teams. Pastor Sarah has received the UCC stewardship campaign materials for this year. Paul, Kristine and Dave will help form a small committee to work on the campaign based on a four month commitment from Aug-Nov.

Fundraising

Paul updated that Vince Martin and Dawn will hold a concert at Hope on the evening of November 7th. The artists are planning to visit Hope prior to the concert and participate in a Sunday service.

Paul continues to research Crowdfunding and how to utilize at Hope.

New Member BBQ

New Member BBQ will be Fri, Sept 18. Andy has volunteered to organize with support from Dave.

Visitors at Baptisms

Ideas from Council on how to better welcome visitors at special occasions should be emailed to Andy. He will compile and forward to Worship Ministry.

Faith Based Disaster Relief

Randy attended a workshop in June. Many topics were discussed. Building and Property Ministry is reviewing all the topics and has chosen to start with a walk-thru of the building by the

Red Cross to classify assets of our church for disaster relief.

Children's Theatre Camp

Robbie reported that the Children's Theatre camp scheduled for this summer at Hope was cancelled due to low enrollment.

NEW BUSINESS

Art in the Park Coordinator

Hope is seeking a new coordinator for the Art in the Park booth. This year's event will be on Sunday, Sept 27, 2015.

Outside Mailbox

The office is suggesting an outside mailbox be installed. Currently mail is delivered inside the building and is sometimes missed depending on delivery time. Randy will take this to Building and Property.

Building Scheduling

Lamont has graciously offered to re-arrange his working schedule to help with building coverage during time of staff transition.

Ecumenical Ice Cream in the Park

This annual event will take place on August 16th. Pastor Sarah is forming a team from Hope. Location may be near the new LaNai Coffee Shop near the tennis courts of the Francis Park.

Coordinating Building Usage

Randy brought up the need to re-visit the scheduling of our building for members and non-members to avoid conflicts. Suggestions included a posted Master Calendar near the office, using the office as central keeper of the calendar, redevelopment of the paper request form, using a web form and having a web calendar on the home page.

MINISTRY UPDATES

Building and Property

Randy reported that in result of the trash issue on the parking lot, B&P is working with area police to determine the best type of sign to be posted to keep the lot clear of people during non-church hours. In addition, Ethan is researching snow blower and leaf vacuum. A volunteer group coming in March is looking for some work they could do during their stay. The outside playground surface needs a cleaning.

Evangelism and Communication

Erik reported that the Ministry Fair will be September 13 along with Rally Day. Each ministry will be contacted.

Finance & Insurance

No Verbal Report

Hospitality
No Verbal Report

Outreach
No Verbal Report

Pastoral and Staff Relations
No Verbal Report

Special Events
No Verbal Report

Stewardship
No Verbal Report

Worship & Liturgical Arts
No Verbal Report

Youth & Children
No Verbal Report

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:43 pm, there was a motion for Council to go into Executive Session.

CLOSING

At 9:53 pm, Council exited Executive Session. At this time a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved and Pastor Ed closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kristine, Secretary