

Hope United Church of Christ Council Meeting Minutes – September 2015

DATE: September 17, 2015

ATTENDEES: Andy, Alice, Kristine, Robbie, Sue R, Susan M, Dave, Bethel, Jennifer, Erik, Paul, Pastor Sarah

ABSENTEES: Randy

DECISIONS MADE:

1. Decision to reschedule new member dinner to a new member luncheon via e-mail vote.
2. Proposal approved via e-mail vote for Kenyon College Chamber Singers to have a tour stop at Hope on March 8, 2016.
3. Proposal approved via e-mail vote for Erin Bode to schedule a holiday concert at Hope as long as there are no conflicts with Hope schedule.
4. Proposal approved via e-mail to hire Josh Gibson to work in part-time role of pastoral care support.
5. Council approved payment of old Missouri payroll tax bill.
6. Council approved motion to approve Evangelical and Communications as a standing committee.
7. Council approved recommendation to amend the Bylaws to remove the names and missions of the current and standing committees and add language reflecting that standing committees/ministries will be reaffirmed at the Annual Meeting as a standing order of the congregation with names and descriptions of the committees/ministries reflected in the Annual Report.

NEXT STEPS/FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS:

1. Kristine to continue to communicate with Ward 16 alderwoman for Chef David.
2. Andy to continue to work with City Hall regarding occupancy permit for Chef David.
3. Paul to bring November 14th concert program draft to Council for review.
4. Pastor Sarah to follow up on possible Council retreat dates.
5. Council to read article “Entrepegelical Leaders” by Cameron Trimble.

GENERAL NOTES:

OPENING

The meeting was opened by Sarah at 7:03 PM with an opening prayer.

MINUTES

Minutes of the August 2015 Council Meeting were approved with minor grammar edits.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Alice presented the financial reports from August. She expressed a concern that we may run deficit by end of the year. Budget Committee is currently meeting and a budget will be presented to Council at the October meeting.

An old MO payroll tax bill for \$330 was brought to Council's attention. Alice requested that Council approve to pay the invoice. A motion to pay the tax bill was made and Council approved.

PASTORS' REPORT

A written report was distributed by Pastor Sarah. Sarah also shared some personal goals for herself and Josh going forward. One such goal was to again share with Council articles of interest to promote leadership conversation. The first article is entitled "Entrepegelical Leaders" by Cameron Trimble. Sarah has asked Council to read for the October meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Kitchen Rental

Erik reported that Chef David is waiting on final certificate for his business operation. Andy has made visits to City Hall on behalf of Hope in hope of getting the certificate for Chef David. He was met with some questions regarding Hope's tax exempt status and was hoping for answers from City Hall quickly. Kristine will work with the alderman from Ward 16 in hopes of getting this completed. The next step would be to seek legal counsel.

Crowdfunding and Concert

Paul made a report regarding the Nov 14, 2015 benefit concert with Vince Martin and Dawn Turlington. The concert will be at 7:00 PM and will include guest singers/musicians from Hope and area churches. His hope was to structure the concert around the areas of help that Hope UCC provides. There was good conversation from Council about the concert. Paul will bring a draft concert program to the next Council meeting. Regarding Crowdfunding, there was discussion over purpose of the Crowdfunding project and whether or not a variation of the Hope UCC logo could be made. Council decided the current Hope UCC logo should be used with no variation. There is not a target date for this project but maybe looking at something in 2016.

Development of Gun Violence Response Group

Pastor Sarah reported that a small group of people are interested in forming this group. Andy will communicate and try to find a chairperson.

Search Committee for Office Administrator

Andy and Jennifer reported that their first interview for a replacement for Michelle's position had occurred and another interview was also scheduled.

Visitation Ministry

Andy reported that the Visitation Ministry was looking to add some members. Several names were brought up as suggestions. Andy will contact.

NEW BUSINESS

Establishing Evangelism and Communications Ministry Team as Official Standing Committee

Erik and Pastor Sarah made a report. Pastor Sarah handed out a copy of the Bylaws and made suggestion to update the Bylaws at the Congregational Meeting to remove the list of standing committees listed in the Bylaws and change to recognize committees/ministries in the Annual Report.

A motion was made to approve the Evangelism and Communications Ministry Team as a standing committee. The motion was seconded and approved by Council.

A motion was also made to make the recommendation to amend the Bylaws to remove the names and missions of the current standing committees/ministries and add language reflecting that standing committees/ministries will be reaffirmed at the Annual Meeting as a standing order of the congregation. Names and descriptions of the ministries to be reflected in the Annual Report. The motion was seconded and approved by Council.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Updates to persons leading Open Discussion for remainder of the year. In addition this person will make the Council Meeting announcement in church and write the Council article for the Builder.

October – Robbie
November – Bethel
December – Dave
January – Susan M

MINISTRY UPDATES

Building and Property

Written Report Received.

Evangelism and Communication

Erik reported on the Ministry Fair.

Finance & Insurance

No Verbal Report

Hospitality

No Verbal Report

Outreach

No Verbal Report

Pastoral and Staff Relations

No Verbal Report

Special Events

Paul reported that a lunch after the Annual Meeting was being planned.

Stewardship

Kristine reported that an initial planning meeting had occurred.

Worship & Liturgical Arts

No Verbal Report

Youth & Children

Bethel reported that there will be a Trunk or Treat held on Oct 24th.

New Member lunch being rescheduled to October 25th. Council members please email Pastor Sarah if attending.

CLOSING

At 9:15 PM, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved and Pastor Sarah closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kristine, Secretary