

Hope United Church of Christ Council Meeting Minutes – November 2015

DATE: November 12, 2015

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

ABSENTEES: Dave

DECISIONS MADE:

1. Proposal approved via e-mail vote to allow Brent Johnson from the Third Baptist Church to use our organ for a recording.
2. Proposal approved via e-mail vote to accept the 2016 Operating Budget.
3. Proposal approved via e-mail vote to accept the Agenda for the annual Congregation Meeting.
4. Proposal approved via e-mail vote to accept the Nominating Report for the annual Congregation Meeting.
5. Council approved motion to remove Kristine Wentzien as point of contact for the Bank of America accounts and put Alice Galt as main contact.

GENERAL NOTES:

OPENING

The meeting was opened by Andy at 7:01 pm. Pastor Sarah led with an opening prayer.

MINUTES

Minutes of the October 2015 Council Meeting were approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Alice presented the financial reports from October. White envelope giving was approx. \$21K and expenses were approx. \$27K leaving a deficit of approx. \$6K. Due to the early Council meeting, the balance sheet is showing September numbers as the October numbers were not yet received. A request was made to see the breakdown of the remaining Spread the Love funds. Alice will bring to meeting.

A motion was made to remove Kristine as point of contact for Hope UCC's Bank of America accounts and put Alice as point of contact. The motion was unanimously approved.

There will be a meet and greet with Jill on November 22nd.

PASTOR'S REPORT

A written report was distributed by Pastor Sarah. Pathways (a lay ministry program) will hold its graduation ceremony in the Chapel on November 13th. Sarah will be on vacation with Josh on-call and Audrey Alexander preaching on November 22nd. December 4th will be the annual open house at the McCann home. Sunday attendance remains about the same.

OLD BUSINESS

Kitchen Rental

Erik reported that a walk through was made with Chef David. He requested permission to keep a small freezer. Contract is in the works for a December 1, 2015 start.

November 14th Concert

Paul reported that all is ready to go. Bethel is helping with free will offering. Sue M is working on refreshments.

Annual Meeting

Sarah distributed proposed agenda. There will be no postlude after the service and the meeting will begin. Job assignments were made. Andy reminded members of proper meeting procedures.

Crowdfunding

No report. Focus is on November 14th concert.

NEW BUSINESS

Josh's Role

Sarah reported that due to Josh's schedule at school, his role is being modified to be on call when Sarah is out of town. Instead of salary, he will be paid hourly at \$25/hr. The visitation team will continue to assist Sarah. A motion was made to change Josh's role from salaried to an hourly position. Motion was approved.

Stewardship Campaign Update

Alice and Sarah reported there are 66 pledges so far. Last year there were 80 pledges by the end of December 2014. We are still hoping to make this goal by year end. Total amount pledged thus far is \$225,000. Final donations for 2015 will be on December 27th.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Alice led open discussion. December is Dave. January is Sue M.

MINISTRY UPDATES

Building and Property

Randy reported that Building and Property would like to request a capital improvement envelope to raise awareness for the need. Alice responded that there are monthly envelopes in offering boxes for this purpose but that fewer members use the boxes.

Further ideas are still in discussion. In addition, they're looking at updating the parlor. Also, they're considering options for Fellowship Hall heat.

Evangelism and Communication

No Verbal Report except that there are 25 yard signs available to help promote Hope UCC.

Finance & Insurance

No Verbal Report—reminder from Alice that there is a need for this committee.

Hospitality

No Verbal Report

Outreach

No Verbal Report

Pastoral and Staff Relations

Jennifer reported that meetings were held with Jim T. and Ethan H.

Special Events

Paul reported that there will be a soup and salad luncheon after the congregational meeting and Breakfast with Santa in December.

Stewardship

No Verbal Report

Worship & Liturgical Arts

Sarah reported they are preparing for the holidays.

Youth & Children

Bethel reported that the Christmas Pageant is being planned. Youth & Children Ministry is taking into consideration the timing, type and working with parents to have a successful message.

CLOSING

Andy proposed as in years past to invite new Council members to attend the December meeting. At 8:44 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