

**Hope United Church of Christ  
Council Meeting Minutes – June, 2017**

**DATE:** June 15, 2017

**ATTENDEES:** Andy, Randee, Robbie, Pastor Jody, Dan, Emma, Jennifer, Erik, Alice, Sue, Bethel

**ABSENTEES:** Tiffany, Amy

**GENERAL NOTES:**

**I. OPENING PRAYER**

Pastor Jody led us in prayer.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Andy)**

Dan motioned to approve the minutes from our May meeting. Randee seconded. Minutes were approved.

**III. FINANCIAL REPORT (Alice)**

- Alice reported that income slightly exceeded expenses for the month.
- While we are in the process of transferring money to the new checking account, we will leave some money in the original account for 30 days to cover any unanticipated expenses.
- Breakfast ministry will stay as a separate line-item balance on the Budget Sheet.
- There was a proposal to make the Quilter's Account just a line-item in the budget.

**IV. PASTOR'S REPORT (Jody)**

- This Sunday is ONA Sunday.
- The Freedom School will be starting Monday.
- Jody will be out of town Wednesday, June 28th through Saturday, July 1st and is attempting to get Martha or another person to cover for him.
- The church office will be closed on the 3rd & 4th of July.
- Freedom school will be temporarily housed at Peace UCC the week we have VBS in July.
- Joyce will be on vacation the week of July 17th.

## **V. OLD BUSINESS**

### *Pastors/Council Presidents Boards*

Bethel is getting pictures to complete the board of Hope members who have gone into ministry and is hoping to get some artistic help from others. Robbie said the consensus via email between council members was that Paul C's plate would be re-engraved to just say the year he was Council President. She'll be getting the next one engraved with Andy's name.

### *Director of Children's Ministries Position*

Bethel, Randee and Sarah E. have been on the committee to fill this position when Katie is done. They are revisiting the wording of the job description. They probably won't meet until the end of June due to schedule conflicts but will then move forward with a timeline. A question was raised about an exit interview for Katie – this was passed on to Emma to bring back to Pastoral and Staff Relations – questions for the exit interview should be sent to her. Other questions raised:

- Do we usually advertise just within our church or outside the church? (Answer: both, including at Eden).
- Do we have any concerns about it being someone from the congregation (regarding privacy issues, etc.)?

### *Church Building Security*

The topic of doors found unlocked and the building left unattended is of concern. Bethel has come up with an idea for a log that would go into a discreet place so that people can record what they've observed when they come in (like doors open). Discussion followed about some particular incidences and who needs to be contacted. Bethel will put something in a Builder article to let the congregation know we are taking measures to keep our building more secure and how we're trying to accomplish this.

### *Nominating Committee Preparation*

Andy and Eric are in need of names to recommend for Church Council and other ministries (it's never too early!). Please send at least two suggestions to Erik by the next meeting.

## **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

### *Monthly Thank-you!*

- A big thank you to Autum and the Garden Club for getting the planters and planting the flowers around the exterior of the church.
- Thank you to Pastoral & Staff Relations for organizing Pastor Sarah's celebration. It was a big hit!

### *Annual Meeting Date*

Erik motioned to set November 12th for the Annual Meeting. Sue seconded. Motion passed.

### *Addressing Violence in our Community*

Bethel recommended carving out a moment in worship to focus on our need to address issues in our community. Jody recommended June 25th to do something as it would tie in with the “theme” of the day. Often we want to do something but don’t know how or what. Ideas included reading the recommendations of the Ferguson Commission for faith communities, using time to write postcards to elected officials, have a speaker and invite other area churches for a potluck and listen and maybe have round-table discussions. Council wants to keep this on our agenda each month so that we can come up with concrete ideas to implement.

### *Ideas to Strengthen our Church Community*

While Sarah is our source of input regarding this topic, her sabbatical gives us an opportunity to develop ideas on our own, getting input from Jody, then be able to bring them to her when she returns. Sarah and Andy have spoken about this and she concurs with this idea that it would be good for us to work on our own a bit. We can also use these ideas to help us with our retreat in September. Let’s have each of our ministries think of things we’d like to try or work on.

## **VII. OPEN DISCUSSION**

Sue had us discuss one time when we went to a summer camp.  
(July’s Open Discussion will be led by Amy K)

## **VIII. MINISTRY TEAMS (ACTION ITEMS ONLY)**

### *Building and Property (Dan)*

Dan reported after Alice’s Financial Report due to another appointment and the need to leave early. Trash expenses were unusually high for this time of year, so we may be over budget by the end of the year if this continues. There is a work-day scheduled for Sept 16th. The ministry followed up on the request from council regarding door locks and allowing access to people on a temporary basis. The person spoken to suggested a key-card system but the expense was quite high. After more council discussion on this, Dan will take back again to B&P, hopefully with more clarification in the request.

### *Evangelism and Communication (Amy)*

No Verbal Report

### *Finance and Insurance (Alice)*

Stifel change-over and Lindell Bank are in process.

### *Hospitality*

No Verbal Report

*Outreach (Sue)*  
No Verbal Report

*Pastoral and Staff Relations (Emma)*  
No Verbal Report

*Special Events (Tiffany)*  
No Verbal Report

*Stewardship (Jennifer)*  
No Verbal Report

*Worship (Robbie)*  
No Verbal Report

*Youth and Children's Ministries (Bethel)*  
No Verbal Report

*Chapel Renovation Team (Erik)*  
Meeting after service on June 25th

## **IX. CLOSING PRAYER**

Pastor Jody led us in closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jennifer