

**HOPE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
COUNCIL MEETING
December 20, 2018**

Present: Andy K., Emma A., Erik H., Robbie V., Bethel H., Dan E., Kathy S., Randee L., Pastor Sarah, Ron Z.

Absent: Amy K., Tiffany B., Jennifer T.

Also Present (Incoming Council Members): Jim R., Ed N., and Bob P.

I. OPENING PRAYER

Pastor Sarah led us in prayer.

II. WELCOMING OF INCOMING COUNCIL MEMBERS

Andy welcomed and thanked the incoming Council Members.

III. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER MINUTES

Motion to approve November Minutes by Ron; seconded by Erik. November Minutes approved.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORT

Roof invoices and payments have skewed the budget numbers for December, but that should be balanced in January. Hope may finish 2018 slightly in the red, but there is typically an uptick in December giving that will likely offset that. This was expected in light of the giving dedicated to the roof project and the shortfall is not a major financial concern.

The continued use of Church Windows will be reevaluated.

Council has requested that the Finance & Insurance Ministry look into options for a church audit.

V. PASTOR'S REPORT

There will be shortened holiday hours for the office and Jody Clegg will have pastor responsibilities for the 12/30 worship.

November/December 2018 attendance is noticeably lower than November/December 2017.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Website update: Due to an oversight by The Miller Group, labor was not included in the original bid, which explains why the original bid was so low. Due to their mistake, they have substantially discounted their customary labor rate, but still estimate the figure to be in the range of \$600.00 - \$1,000.00.

Ron moved, and Erik seconded, to approve the increased bid amount, and to draw \$594.38 from the Evangelism and Communication Ministry 2018 budget surplus toward the invoice, with the balance coming from the Conference Call Fund. Motion passed.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. A notice from the City of St. Louis Excise Division for the liquor license application for Lanai Coffee. Dan provided context to Council about the Excise procedure for granting a liquor license, which requires neighborhood consent from a majority of property owners within a 350-foot radius of the proposed establishment. Dan further explained that a representative from Lanai would likely be visiting the office in the coming weeks to seek support and answer any questions about the proposed license. As such, this matter was tabled for further discussion and a vote in January. Dan recommended that, unless there was opposition to the grant of the liquor license, that Hope sign in support.

- B. Council Members signed up for ushering during the month of January.

- C. Monthly thank you

- Andy thanked all past, current, and new Council Members for their support and dedication during his tenure on Council.
- Pastor Sarah thanked Andy specifically for his dedication and hard work on Council for the past six years and for his four years as Council President.
- Pastor Sarah thanked all four outgoing Council Members for their service to Hope.
- Jim thanked his son for learning how to operate the sound board.
- Kathy thanked Jim and his family for the beautiful music during last week's service.
- Robbie thanked the younger musicians for sharing their time and talent.
- Kathy thanked Ed for taking over the Epiphany Breakfast.
- Ed, on behalf of Isaiah 58, thanked the Congregation for its generosity.
- Erik thanked Robbie and Tiffany, as co-treasurers, for navigating all the large financial projects, most notably the roof.

VIII. OPEN DISCUSSION

Erik led open discussion on the topic of each Council Member's favorite Christmas movie. Jim volunteered to lead open discussion at the January Council Meeting.

IX. MINISTRY TEAMS (ACTION ITEMS ONLY)

- Building and Property – The roof project is progressing as expected and on budget. Fellowship Hall will be repainted in anticipation of the 75th Anniversary Celebration.
- Evangelism and Communication – NVR
- Finance and Insurance – NVR
- Hospitality – NVR
- One Body Ministry – Christmas cards were sent to shut-ins.
- Open and Affirming – Ed has agreed to be the Council liaison moving forward.
- Outreach – NVR
- Pastoral and Staff Relations – NVR
- Special Events – NVR
- Stewardship – NVR
- Worship and Liturgical Arts – NVR
- Youth and Children's – NVR

X. CLOSING PRAYER

Pastor Sarah led us in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan E.