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Congregational Council Meeting Minutes – May 26, 2021

APPROVED

Call to Order – Purpose Statement & Guiding Principles.

Meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

In attendance:

- Pastor Brett Ballenger
- Walter Stridick, President
- Allison Arber, Vice-President
- Kim Syvertsen, Secretary
- Beth Gebhart
- Rob Herb
- Lorraine Hoilien
- Michael Parker
- Not in attendance: Wayne Grant, Josh Groff, Alex Groff

Faith5 - Prayer Concerns & Invocation

Minutes of the April meeting have been received into the record, with one correction, noting Michael Parker was present, but late.

Pauline Ahern – Review of Financial Summary – discussion of new format and overview of financial. Review update quarterly, and new summary will be created every month for our review.

Discipleship Growth of our Leaders and Report of the Pastor

Ad hoc bequest committee met. We need to be clearer about our ministry mission. What is the best stewardship of these funds? What direction do we want to go with our ministry?

- Interest/participation discussion/ money
- Pantry/feeding ministries – Social Missions
- Family Promise/homeless
- Music/fellowship – when can we get back to interactive worship?
- Property – small group of very busy people.
- Outside community groups
- Nafshenu
- Youth ministry
- God's Precious Children/Liberian Scholarship
- Music and Arts

Ideas to consider for moving forward:

- What do we need to do to move these ministries forward?
- How do we use our building for this? Do we offer Family Promise a home base?
- Can we do something more for the pantry? Are we providing long-term healthy nutrition? Do we convert the pantry to fresh food? Giving out cooked food/classes?

- Common Green Project – what does it mean for us to be the church on the green? A space of joining and inviting others in – hear your encounters – a place of hearing and learning shared experiences.
- What do we do with our space? We do not want to go back to pre-covid.
- What are we going to look like in 15 years? What will our demographics be? How are we capturing those who have gifts to share?
- Family Promise is trying to stop the moving of families between churches as it is very stressful.
- Beth Gebhart has a friend who is an architect and would be happy to come in to help us improve our space usage.

End of discussion for now.

Ministry Updates – See Reports

Finance Ministry – Wayne Grant has been advised by Thrivent that he would be in conflict of interest in making financial decisions for the church, and he has requested to resign from Council. Mindy Grant would be willing to hold the position until the next annual meeting.

- Lorraine: Motion to accept Wayne Grant’s resignation from the council, with regret, and approve Mindy Grant’s appointment to the position for the remainder of the year, until the next annual meeting.
- Allison Seconded.
- Motion passed.

Witnesses from the congregation – Laura sent positive feedback from members, cookies and a lovely note were received from a pantry family, Beth and Allison report mask stories from members.

Report of Pastor – See above

Standing ministries:

Safety Team – See Report

Review of CDC guidelines and new POP Safety team recommendation

- Indoor worship on Sunday – everyone masks 1st 6 weeks 9:30 - unanimous yes
- Saturday night outdoor worship – masking optional-unanimous yes
- Sunday night zoom worship 6:00 p.m. – unanimous yes.

Tabled standing ministry reports.

Bequest committee is meeting on June 6th

No correspondence

Next meeting is Wednesday, June 23, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Kim Syvertsen, Secretary