

Council Meeting Minutes **July 18, 2022 at 6 pm Via Zoom**

Present: Janice Koppenhaver, Beth Reavis, Wayne Powell, Mary Ballard, Martha Kreszock, Pastor Steve Troisi, Charlie Wallin, Morgan Wright, Carol Norris, and Kristie Evans. Jesse Lutabingwa, Emory Maiden. Alan Hauser

1. **Call to Order** - Charlie called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.
2. **Devotion** - Janice provided a devotion on the power of community.
3. **Review Updated Council Ground Rules** - Charlie reviewed the ground rules.
 - Please raise your hand to indicate that you would like to speak.
 - Please give your name and state your views on the matter under discussion, including any questions or concerns you may have.
 - In order to allow others ample opportunity to join in the conversation, please keep any subsequent comments by you on this issue/motion succinct and to the point.
 - Please remain quiet when others have the floor so everyone can hear.
 - Please be respectful of those voicing differing opinions.
4. **Congregational Input** - Charlie asked for any congregational input. Kristie had someone ask if we're ever going to go back to communion at the altar. Pastor Steve said that if people need some space that's difficult to do. Some of our most cautious members keep their masks on until they reach the trash can to dispose of the cup. Alan said we need to continue to be cautious with this given the increase in cases. Janice and Charlie agreed. Beth said until we have less visitors to the high country, we should wait. Carol said the current method helps people with mobility issues who have difficulty with the stairs.
5. **Approval of Council Meeting Minutes** - Charlie asked for any changes to the minutes. Pastor Steve made the motion to accept and Morgan seconded. Motion carried.
6. **Strategic Visioning** - Charlie asked if any changes need to be made. Pastor Steve said it would be updated in September.
 - a. Review Organizational Chart and Liaison Assignments
7. **Policy** - Charlie
 - a. **Ratified Constitution and Bylaws** at the August Congregational Meeting Aug 21st.

8. Monitoring and Oversight

a. Reports:

i. **Senior Pastor Report** - Pastor Steve said it has been difficult to keep up and will be glad to add Sabena and Vicar Spence. Parking spots are all sold for 2022-2023.

1. Engagement Report

ii. **Campus Ministry Coordinator Report**

iii. **Music Ministry Report** - Charlie noted that Lauren is leaving for a new job. Lauren's position is funded with special funds.

iv. **Facilities Manager Report** - See the old business.

v. **Treasurer Report** - Morgan reported that not much has changed from last month. For total revenue we're \$46k below budget. Growing Grace has added about \$10,000, so that money could be used for Grace Place and Council House. Pastor Steve added that when looking at projections, we've added about \$2,000 with additional parking, we may break even. Charlie said we had additional donations the Sunday of the baptism.

b. Old Business:

i. **Security Protocol Group** - Pastor Steve noted that he updated the usher protocol to include locking the doors once the service begins. He noticed that Andy Burgess made a sweep on Sunday around the church. This does mean that ushers need to stay in the narthex for any late comers.

ii. **Fire Alarm System** (Pastor Steve) - No Update

iii. **Property Task Force Update** - Pastor Steve said the landscape project still doesn't have a bid yet, but just the concrete is \$40,000 and is waiting for the rock wall bid. The contractor thought the Council House is salvagable to renovate. Alan asked what funds are available in the Peeler funds (\$23,000) Carriage House - Charlie asked if we need to just take it down. Randy Blake noted that the Council House beams are wormy chestnut, so would be valuable and it may be something that someone would come take it down and pay for it.

iv. **Updates on adjustments to schedule related to COVID-19**

Charlie said we're still low but cases are rising.

c. New Business (30 minutes)

i. **Sabbatical Request and Applications Update** - Still waiting to hear from the additional grants.

ii. **100th Anniversary of Grace** - Pastor Steve said 4 people have volunteered for May 28, 2023. Beth asked what liturgical season it is. (Pentecost Sunday)

iii. **Stewardship Drive in June-July** - Pastor Steve said we got the letter out

with statements. We'll send notices with drive information soon.

iv. **Budget Process** - Pastor Steve noted that the parking money comes in August and could bump the fee up next year to \$750, plus a processing fee. We sold 67 spots in 18 days. With this addition, we still have a deficit of \$11,000. What are items to present to the congregation? We could renovate the Council House for college interns, expand the parking lot, etc. Pastor Steve noted that we usually show last year's actual projections and then the budget. Morgan said members are concerned about benevolences. Janice said that we had given money through Troutman, but it is about the amount that we used to budget for. Pastor Steve said we could present the \$320,000 with a deficit. Carol said everyone knows times are hard and to be honest about the budget needs. Alan said we should present it that we have trimmed and trimmed and this is the current budget and to request additional donations. Charlie asked if Pastor Steve would do a workshop during the Sunday School hour. Kristie asked what percentage of the congregations gives automatically. Pastor Steve said this is a good question for Kathy and most of the giving comes in online or checks during the week, not on Sunday. Pastor Steve that we haven't pushed passing the offering plates and do call for special gifts (inspirational giving). Kristie suggested putting in a plea to make additional giving. Pastor Steve said a message is tricky to balance between people already giving. Alan made a motion to put the budget forward with a \$1000 deficit and encourage members to give more. Carol seconded. Charlie stated that we'll give a good narrative to explain. Motion carried.

v. **Nominating Committee** - Pastor Steve confirmed who was rolling off. (Janice, Alan, Charlie, Beth). In the past, we asked Council members if they will be willing to continue to serve. Charlie will serve on the nominating committee and Beth volunteered. Pastor Steve has to get the Trexler committee in motion.

vi. **Office Manager and Communications Coordinator Update** -We're very excited to have Sabena starting on August 1 and she's been in to drop off items for her office.

She's the perfect person for bridging the digital and some people who can do the personal touch. Alan seconded what Pastor Steve said and that she has wonderful interpersonal skills.

vii. **Congregational Meeting Agenda - Aug 21, 2022** -

Charlie asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Alan made the motion and Carol seconded. Motion carried. Carol made a motion that we usually move the Council meeting to Aug. 22nd to include the new Council meeting. Alan seconded. Motion carried.

viii. **Hotdog Stand for Football Games** - A lady in the community asked about selling hotdog stand during our football game parking. She talked with Pastor Steve last week, but was supposed to call him back by today. If we want to consider this, we may need to vote for this via email. Charlie said she did well when on campus and feels good about her. Carol asked what do we get out of it. Pastor Steve said she would give a donation to whatever group is parking cars.

ix. **PIKA** is going to come back to meet at the church for 2022-23. They asked if they could do the move-in day parking and split the donations with the church and Hunger and Health Coalition.

10. **Next Meeting: Aug. 22, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.**

i. Devotion: Martha

11. **Adjourn Meeting with the Lord's Prayer** - Janice

Devotion List:

September: Pastor Steve?