

Council Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2022 at 6 pm Via Zoom

Attending: Jesse Lutabinga, Beth Reavis, Morgan Wright, Mary Ballard, Wayne Powell, Janice Koppenhaver, Martha Krenzock, Pastor Steve Troisi, Alan Hauser, Carol Norris, Emory Maidden, and Kristie Evans.

1. **Call to Order** - Mary called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m

2. **Devotion** - Jesse provided a devotion about removing obstacles that impede our growth and keep people away. He gave examples of Jesus turning water into wine, ordination of women in Tanzania and looked Grace as to whether there are obstacles that keep people out.

3. **Review Updated Council Ground Rules** - Mary reviewed the groundrules.

- 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** - Mary asked for congregational input. Pastor Steve said he got a text that the altar flowers were not displayed during the recorded service because the recording was done early. These details are important. Mary also noted that the flower sign up is now online. Pastor Steve noted some recording issues because of new upgraded equipment for recording services. Beth Reavis said how much she appreciated the children's message. Alan reminded us that we need to be patient about the use of new equipment. Whatever we plan to do in the future, we always have to keep in mind that the wrinkles of life.

5. **Approval of Council Meeting Minutes** - Mary asked for the motion. Alan moved that the minutes be approved, Jesse seconded. Motion carried.

6. **Strategic Visioning** - Mary

a. **Review Organizational Chart and Liaison Assignments** - There is one change adding Waye and Pastor Steve will update the chart for February.

b. **2021-2022 Council Goals** - Conversation regarding Part 1 of ReShape - Pastor Steve said he really liked the discussion questions. He'd like us to focus the discussion

on the discussion questions in future discussions. The author wrote the book in June 2020. Having to do new things is probably here to stay. The author noted VUCA (volatility, uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity). Following an overview, a discussion of the two chapters ensued beginning with the question “Why are you a part of the Christian movement.” for chapter 1.

In Chapter 2, it takes 24-60 months to adjust to the new normal. It takes a lot longer than we think and not everyone deals with situations in the same way. Pastor Steve noted that we are learning new ways (e.g., canceling a service because of bad weather and utilizing the online service). Third thing, what are our assets and let’s do something/try something.

For February, read p. 43-84 (chapters 3-5). March - two chapters , April - two chapters.

7. **Policy** - Mary reminded that we will have a hybrid congregational meeting

a. **Reminder Congregational Meeting to Approve the Constitution** - Feb 27th.

8. **Monitoring and Oversight**

a. **Reports:**

i. **Senior Pastor Report** - in light of the closures, a Zoom communion meeting will be held on Wed., Jan. 19 at 6:45 p.m. In February, the Holden Evening service will be in person.

1. **Engagement Report**

ii. **Campus Ministry Coordinator Report**

iii. **Vicar Report** - Wayne asked if he is getting the participation that he needs. An open link will be added, so that the people can participate more easily..

iv. **Music Ministry Report**

v. **Administrative Secretary Report**

vi. **Facilities Manager Report** - no report

vii. **Treasurer Report** - Morgan highlighted good news that we’re above our year to date income. Our expenses have been lower, but the boiler issue will likely use up the surplus. Usual January and February lower giving will likely be lower. Alan asked if we’re trying keep it running until April. It turns out there is an electrical issue that keeps tripping a part that had been replaced.

b. **Old Business (10 minutes):**

i. **Security Protocol Group** (Carol) - No update

ii. **Fire Alarm System** (Pastor Steve) - Grace has received a \$10,000 Gift.

iii. **Property Task Force Update** - Pastor Steve said he got a meeting with Town Manager, John Ward. He asked about the historical status of the Council property and didn’t think that impacted the status. There is also an interest in

using the property as affordable housing.

iv. **Updates on adjustments to schedule related to COVID-19** - Mary noted that our status really haven't changed due to the increase in cases. Pastor Steve said the health dept. has N95 masks that you can request. The Synod recommendations are included in the reports. We're meeting most of the criteria. Mary asked if we could require better masks because the cloth masks don't work. Alan said that in the last Sunday there were some people pulling their masks down while singing hymns and not wearing masks correctly. Emory said strongly encouraging versus requiring gets to enforcement. He and his family have been greeters and saw most people wearing a mask. Alan noted that it's love and concern to wear mask. Mary read the red/orange status requires masks to be worn. Jesse noted we may need to be more explicit. Pastor Steve said that he's been reminding the congregation. Mary asked about communion and Pastor Steve said he'll decide about communion.

c. New Business

i. **Intern Application for 2022-2023** - Jesse asked about the process of getting an intern. Pastor Steve says the process varies and the seminary does a 1 to 1 candidate/church match. There are a number candidates that are eligible. Pastor Steve usually doesn't share who it is because all the interns have to be placed first. Wayne made motion to apply for an intern. Alan seconded. Motion carried.

ii. **Wildwood Learning Center Contract** - The WLC contracted with us a couple of years ago for space. If they request to renew, the staff would not recommend renewal because the wear and tear on the Council House and they have a lot of materials. The LSA is limited in how they can use the house. Pastor Steve has wondered if there is a better partner for us. It limits how the house can be used. We wondered what other options could be used. Morgan made a motion to tell WLC that we are not planning to renew their contract. Janice seconded. Motion carried.

9. **Next Meeting:** February 21, 2022 at 6 p.m.

i. Devotion: Mary

10. **Adjourn Meeting with the Lord's Prayer** (5 minutes) - Jesse

Devotion List:

March - Beth

April - Emory

May - Carol

June - Janice
July - Morgan
Aug - Martha