

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 13, 2022**

In Attendance: Pr. Becky David (Interim Pastor), Audra Bailey (Moderator), Kristi Bailey (Spiritual Engagement), Russ Armstrong (At Large), Abby Stickell (Christian Education), Barb Guss (At Large), Heather Carlson (Clerk), Phil Koenig (Building and Finance), Lindsey Spies (Interim Minister of Faith Formation and Pastoral Care)

Absent: Pam Wendt (Outreach and Mission), Steve Schippers (Visitor)

Call to Order: Audra Bailey called the meeting to order at 6:04PM and opened with a prayer.

Visitor Input: Audra called attention to the Endowment Processes that Steve Schippers wrote in December. She explained that this outlines the processes for making contributions and withdrawals from the endowment as well as for monthly and annual reporting of endowment fund transactions and performance. It also includes the process for electing the members of the Endowment Committee.

Audra asked Council members to review the document and email Steve with any suggestions. The congregation will vote on this at the annual meeting in February.

Approval of Minutes: Audra Bailey moved to approve the minutes from the December meeting. Phil Koenig seconded. Motion carried.

Review of Financials: December financials were not available at the time of the meeting.

Moderator's Report: The following items were discussed:

- **Personnel Update**
 - Administrative Assistant
 - Audra informed Council that Catherine Moneysmith resigned after accepting a work-from-home job. The Personnel Committee is interviewing applicants for the position.
 - Nursery Coordinator
 - We do not have any candidates for this position.
- **Nominating Committee**
 - Audra prepared a list of all boards showing all incoming and outgoing members as well as those members who have not yet completed their terms.
 - Church Council does not have a moderator or vice moderator in place at this time. There was discussion about what to do if those positions aren't filled. Pr. Becky suggested the possibility of restructuring the council. Phil Koenig reminded council members that that will take a congregational vote and should be very carefully considered.

- **Bus Governance**
 - Pr. Becky told Council that questions have come up regarding which board governs scheduling and maintaining the bus. After discussion about the bus policy and the provisions of the Hallene Fund, it was agreed that the bus governance will remain with the Spiritual Engagement Board.
- **Snow Cancellation**
 - It was agreed that the Senior Pastor and Moderator will decide if worship services are to be cancelled due to winter conditions. Amber Moore will notify members through social media and a general text message. News media will also be notified.
- **Upcoming Meetings**
 - There is an emergency meeting scheduled for January 23, 2022 to inform church members about our financial situation. This meeting will be live-streamed.
 - The financial presentation will be given at the Adult Forum on February 6. Audra will work with Phil Koenig who is preparing a Power Point presentation with Building and Finance.
 - The Year in Photos will be shown at the meeting on February 6 as well as the annual meeting on February 13.
- **CJ Agreement and Review**
 - After discussion about concerns with the proposal from Chris Jackson (CC&B BBQ), Audra Bailey moved that we decline the proposal as written. Russ Armstrong seconded. Motion passed.
- **ONA Conversation**
 - Audra Bailey moved that council go into closed session to discuss an issue with a church member. Phil Koenig seconded. Motion passed.
- **2022 Budget**
 - Council reviewed an overview of income, expenses, surplus/deficit, pledges, and membership since 2013. This information will be addressed at the emergency meeting on January 23.
 - Pr. Becky gave background information about the stewardship campaign and what the Stewardship Committee will be doing differently moving forward.
 - Lindsey Spies asked if we have data on how age groups pledge.

**Interim Minister of
Faith Formation and
Pastoral Care Report**

- Lindsey Spies reported that she's excited to be working with Amanda as well as CE families. She is also happy that the mentor program has started.
- She is looking forward to Lent.

**Pastor's
Report:**

- Pr. Becky reported on the following:
- Stewardship is finalizing thank you's to donors and will begin meeting again in March.
 - Lindsey Spies has been working with CE and supporting pastoral care.
 - Pr. Becky will revisit the Transition Team after the meeting on January 23.
 - In addition to Lindsey's installation and reception and the meeting on January 23, there will be a confirmation mini-retreat on January 23 from 4-8pm.
 - Pr. Becky's time off is outlined in her report.

**Ministry Board
and
Committee
Reports:**

Christian Education

- Abby Stickell told Council that the Christmas Eve services went well, although she felt the attendance at the early service was smaller than in years past.

Building and Finance

- Minutes from B&F's December meeting reflect the following:
 - The cornerstone has been caulked.
 - The catalytic converter in the bus was replaced.
 - Steve Schippers reviewed the procedures for the endowment committee.
- **Outreach and Mission**
 - No report

Spiritual Engagement

- Minutes from SE's December meeting reflect the following:
 - Two storage rooms were cleaned and organized by Pr. Becky, Kristi Bailey, Matt Dies, and Jennifer Dailing.
 - The sanctuary was decorated for Christmas on November 21 and the decorations will be taken down on January 2.

Old Business: Building Use Task Force

- Discussion tabled.

Covid

Response: Abby Stickell will review the Covid-19 Response Guidelines.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35PM following a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Carlson
Clerk