

Minutes for Church Council Meeting

7:00 p.m. on February 11, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: Scott Fierle

PRESENT: Pastor Steve Biegner, Janell Andersen, Scott Fierle, Nicholas Hazlett, Debbie Howe, Bill Niblock, Sue Renken-Mintzer, David Schunak, Vern Stein, Barb Walter

ABSENT: Cheryl Gillen

DEVOTIONS: What are you taking from here (out into the world)?

TREASURER'S REPORT: We looked at a comparison of 2019 to January 2020 for both income and attendance. We are off to a good start. The Constitution currently states that we take 6% from endowment interest to put in the general fund. We are currently following that but then moving it into church reserve. At the next Finance Committee, they will talk about having the flexibility to vary the percentage taken from endowment.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Barb motioned to approve the January 14 minutes, Scott seconded, and the council unanimously approved them.

NOTICE AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Judi Gersic and Dave Wolf will receive the Magi Award on Friday, May 1. The council voted on the church sponsoring 8 seats at Judi and David's table for \$450. Sue moved. Barb seconded. Council approved unanimously.

NAMI contacted the church office asking about the new building usage fees. They have been paying \$750/year and were requesting that they could continue to pay that fee. Under the new billing usage system, they would have to pay \$9800/year. Council reviewed that AA uses our church for free but make an equivalent donation each year; Girl Scouts also does not pay. Council discussed whether NAMI's work overlaps and may best be supported in the MSM Family Support Center space. Pastor estimated that the cost of coffee, key fobs, utilities, and janitorial services is more than the \$750 they are currently paying. Pastor Steve will sit down with NAMI's director and clarify their usage and propose a compromise.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

Pastor Steve met with Norma Malfatti, Director of Evangelical Mission for Bishop of NY Synod, to talk about Fire Church. Based on that discussion, Pastor brought two questions back to Council. First, Deb moved, Barb seconded, and council approved unanimously that Fire Church is an extension of St. Paul's mission. Fire Church members will be on the rolls of St. Paul's. St. Paul's missionaries will sponsor participants of Fire Church, Comforters will make prayer shawls for baptism, and we welcome them to our larger church. Second, we clarified that Adam Weber is a NYS ordained minister who is approved to lead weddings by St. Paul's Church; this is different than being an ECLA-ordained minister.

One staff update: Katie is no longer working at Crossroads.

Main Street Ministries will share Lenten services as planned.

The Family Support Center will be bring groups in to talk about services they could offer in this new space. Gateway will start in the fall. Crossroads is excited by this new ministry.

NEW BUSINESS:

Pastor Steve brought the Adult Forum's discussion to council. We want to find a way to welcome all people more deeply. We want to include everyone in the conversation. Pastor Steve will look at upcoming scriptures to find two or three weeks where it would be appropriate to discuss the church's invitation to all; he will use that as a way to introduce a conversation that happens after service.

OLD BUSINESS:

On Sunday Mission Day, People did sign up to be part of a 2020 Building Rehab Planning Committee. Council felt it was important to open up that committee to others. The first meeting will be after a Sunday service inviting other interested people to join

Nick has collected information on key fob options. He is studying the differences in mechanics and prices and will send an email summarizing what he has found. We will vote by email ASAP.

David reported that the technology has all been integrated. He needs to install it and do a test stream, and it will definitely be up and running by Easter. Two signed up to help Sunday Mission Day. Pastor Steve suggested that youth would enjoy being responsible for filming services.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Barb motioned to adjourn. Nick seconded.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: (second) Tuesday, March 10, 2020

Respectfully submitted, Deborah Regan Howe