

First Congregational United Church of Christ Board of Directors Meeting Minutes May 23, 2023 on Zoom

Attending: Tom Yuhasey, Kevin LeVoir, Carol Bennett, Bruce Tyler, Carol Winter, Jenny Delfs, Enno Limvere – absent John Bottger.

Call to Order 5 pm

Opening conversations: reading the mission statement, sharing joys and concerns, this month's "question," and reading the communications agreement.

Urgent Business and Housekeeping:

1. April minutes were **approved** online and published in the May Shining Light newsletter.
2. Proposed agenda—**approved**.
3. Financial report – Kevin LeVoir - report—**approved**.
 - Cash flow is down due to some expenses this month (parsonage garage room repair, ads).
 - Money in reserve funds.
 - Bills are covered this month.
 - Youth funds to date are \$3870.67 donated toward the \$4000 goal for the DC trip. More funds are needed for programming for the rest of the year.
4. June Shining Light deadline —May 29. Tom has done this month's Board Message.
5. Plan to move monthly newsletter publishing up a week so the newsletter is available the last Sunday of the previous month. Accordingly, the next deadline will be June 19 for July Shining Light.
6. Next Board of Directors meeting 6/20 5-7 pm.

Old and New Business:

1. Pastor Report reviewed.
 - Pastor Enno plans to be involved with fewer planning committees next year.
 - Plan to increase visitation to elders.
 - Review of busy last few months.
 - **Approval** of \$300 to reimburse housing costs when attending Festival of Homiletics from Sanctuary reserve funds.
 - Tuesday noon prayers for the Earth proposed to start in June.
2. MN UCC Conference attendees will be Board member Bruce Tyler, Pastor Enno Limvere, and Nancy Giguere. June 6/9-10. Reviewed available workshops to look for any "must-sees." They



talk to committee members.

- Meeting budget for now.

- Pass through funds to donating to Syrian relief, Ukraine, and UCC annual donations. Currently collecting for Strengthening the Church.

- Discussion about getting memorial funds currently sitting in reserve funds designated for use. Request the memorial committee to work on getting this done. Review memorial committee policy. Tom will

will do a report for July Shining Light. Budgeted funds for registration can be requested.

3. Mutual Ministry Goal review:

- Mission statement rewrite – new mission statement ready for congregational vote @ June 25 congregational meeting. Kevin will do the wording of the proposed Constitutional amendment for inclusion in June newsletter.

- Community Building:

 - >Loaves and Hotdish restart in April. Next will be at Delfs/Kern home on June 7. Gather at 530, eat at 6 pm, singing to follow.

 - > Solstice Meal at church 6/21 – Bruce to plan. Freewill offering for community garden boxes' supplies. Coordinate with Sing Along.

- Outreach:

 - >Earth Day report – a successful event.

 - >Continue announcements Sundays featuring different nonprofits and charities.

4. Daycare in South Rm - no new news – suspect this may not happen until Fall 2023.

5. New office manager hired: Neil Pederson. Start at \$20/hour and revisit at the 3-month mark.

6. Schedule for Board to do Sunday “news of the community.” 5/28 Carol B, 6/4 Jenny, 6/11 defer (Pride Service in Park) and 6/18 Bruce

7. Nominating Committee formation – Moderator Tom and Carol B. Need to find an at-large congregational member or 2 to join. Tasked to find two congregants to join BOD. Carol B and John Bottger are going off Board in June. Vote in new BOD members at June congregational meeting.

8. Agenda for June Congregational meeting to go in June newsletter – elections, mission statement vote, presentation by Buildings and Grounds, Time, and Talent survey. Tom will write.

Committee updates:

1. Pastoral Relations meeting regularly with Pastor Enno.

2. Finance committee - weekly updates to the congregation

3. Stewardship committee – describing volunteer roles for booklet, time, and talent survey.

4. Children and Youth life /faith formation – Sunday School off for summer, Youth gatherings continue DC trip fundraising.

5. Memorial Committee -need to determine the designated use of memorial funds.

6. Building and Grounds – successful Spring clean-up Saturday, garage roof replaced @ parsonage, met with an architect. Several tiers of plans for building – depending on fundraising efforts. Presentation at June meeting.

7. Outreach – WOW in full swing, Collaborations with the Food shelf, climate groups, Pride

8. Rooted and Rising – taking on rain gardens and church garden boxes.

9. Worship committee meeting monthly.

10. Grievance committee has not been needed to date.

11. Food Team – ask for congregation volunteers for after service treats, socializing.

Adjourn 705pm.