

CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES

Due to less than 2/3 of the members being in attendance, the August 2023 Council Meeting was not held, and instead an informational meeting was held on 8/16/23 with those members listed below. The minutes that follow are simply notes of the informal meeting, since no official meeting was held.

Council Members Present: Pastor Bannister, Harry Betz, Melanie Boyer, Alan Divver, Linda Morrison, Bob Muller, Shannon O’Neill, Barbara Quinn, Bruce Roper, and Jen Shaw

Absent: Ashdon Bobbie, Christine Casey, CJ Hamilton, Maryanne Sweeney, Tom Smith, and Trish Strauss

The scripture was read by Pastor Bo and the prayer was offered by Pastor Bo.

PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL:

None

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

The minutes from June 2023 were reviewed.

REPORTS:

President, Bob Muller –Attached

Pastor Bannister – Attached

Attendance – Attached

Finance Committee – Attached

OLD BUSINESS:

75th Anniversary Update – Shannon O’Neill spoke for the committee and said that they are currently deciding on a venue, and at their next meeting in September they will finalize where it will be held and have a budget. Other topics are also moving along, including the possibility of a contest for new logo.

Visions and Values Statements Update – Because a formal Council Meeting was not held this month and so that the input from all members can be included, the mission/vision statements

were only briefly discussed. Council intends to have the mission/vision statement finalized at the September meeting.

New Email Service – The service is still giving us problems but the office is trying to work through the continuing issues.

Electronic Sign – Harry Betz gave an update from the work Denise Betz has been doing looking into the possibility of a new sign. The sign companies are in FL or TX, so cannot visit our site personally. A new electronic sign seems to be in the \$30,000 ball park. We will need to figure out exactly where we would want the sign placed for best visibility. We are hoping that moving the existing wiring will not be necessary. Denise hopes to have a formal proposal for the September Council meeting.

Pastor Bo calling to St Johns – The date for officially calling Pastor Bo is planned to be September 24th, to correspond with St John's Day. The second choice being submitted to the Synod is October 1st. Bob Muller will submit the dates to Synod.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trespassing Issues / No Trespassing Signs – a couple additional people were on the roof last month. The police advised we put up signs, which has been done. They also suggested cameras.

PECO Audit – Harry Betz had a follow up meeting with the Community Cupboard. They were not comfortable going to the other churches involved in the Community Cupboard for monetary help with expenses because although they contribute, it is really St John's that is responsible for the Community Cupboard. PECO does not do audits for small businesses except for lighting. Consequently, Harry Betz explained that we have three options available to us. 1) PECO will pay for replacement bulbs to convert to LED lighting. 2) We could pick and choose what light fixtures we would like replaced since PECO can replace existing lighting fixtures with more modern fixtures – they would pay partial and we would pay partial. 3) We could update all lighting and fixtures. They will give us several options with costs and a time frame for expected payback on our investment.

Usher procedures – Those present thought it would be a good idea to have the usher duties written down so that there is consistency and also a document with the procedures/duties. Bob Muller will get with Joe Kircher regarding this.

Bob Muller brought up the possibility of not having council meetings for July and August going forward due to low attendance during the summer months and there are usually not many council related issues that time of year. Others thought that it ought to be decided on a yearly basis.

After this Monday 8/21, the sanctuary will be set up for the Brad Fox concert on September 10th.

Members had a discussion about including a clean-up deposit for events held on church property because a previous group left food that needed to be taken out to the dumpster.

Bob Muller/Ashdon Bobbie will look at the existing form and add to it if necessary.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Community Outreach Ministry – No report
- Constitution and Bylaws – No report
- Fellowship – No report
- Hatboro Community Cupboard –See report
- Kids & Family Ministry –See report
- Memorials – No report
- Mutual Ministry – No report
- Property –See report
- Social Media – No report
- Stewardship – No report
- Women’s Ministry – No report
- Worship & Music –See report

CORRESPONDENCE:

A request has been submitted to use the parking lot during the Hatboro Cruise Night to stage some cars for photos.

If this were an official Council Meeting and a Motion had been made to approve the use of the parking lot for some car photos during Hatboro’s Cruise Night, Bob Muller would have made the motion and Harry Betz would have second it. But since this was only an informal meeting, those present all agreed to allow the photo taking and no motion was presented.

CARES AND CONCERNS:

Pastor Bo and council members shared their cares and concerns.

NEXT MEETING: Date: September 20, 2023

Meeting Leader: Bob Muller

Scripture: Harry Betz

Prayer: Tom Smith

Refreshments: Tom Smith

The informal meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Roper