

Minutes of Congregational Council Meeting - June 25, 2023

Carolyn Howard opened the meeting at 11:30.

Present: Carolyn Howard, Pastor Monica, Elaine Belay, Diane Catley, Karl Pedersen, and Carla Liversedge.

1) Carolyn began the meeting with devotions.

2) The agenda for the meeting was unanimously approved with three additional items:

- 5D) Update on Media Consultant,
- 5E) Chapel Garden Request,
- 5F) Council meeting for July

3) Consent Agenda - Council unanimously approved the consent agenda

4) Unfinished Business

4A) Financials- The council packet included April and May financial reports. Discussion involved the issue that Non-pledged and Plate offerings are down. Pledged offerings are relatively current. The council discussed methods to improve the ways people can give electronically, specifically in person with QR codes. This is the more current way people donate instead of cash or check. Pastor Monica would work with Marcia to put something in the bulletin and with Carol Webster to put the option online. Stewardship would send out a letter encouraging people to stay current with donations and a reminder of all the methods to access electronic giving.

4B) Property update- Pastor Monica said the new keypad has been installed on The Well door. Anyone needing the combination code can call the office for the information. Karl mentioned that there is a crack in the toilet in the men's upstairs bathroom. Monica said she would pass the information on to Ray.

4C) The Well Campus Ministry Call Process and Volunteers for the Fall 2023 –The Well Board members are: Bennet Cassell, Jay Crone, and Rachel Larson from LMLC, Jody Smiley from St Michael, and Mark Hustedt, a Well alumnus. The Board has begun meeting and they are setting goals for Fall 2023 and Spring 2024. Carolyn asked that they bring their ideas to the council before the August Council meeting.

4D) The Alcohol Policy – After council developed an alcohol statement for football parking, a member of the congregation is still concerned that the church is promoting alcohol consumption by this statement. Also of concern was the liability the church might have. The council agreed to have an attorney review the policy statement for possible liability issues. Once we have his legal opinion, the wording of the statement may or may not be edited.

4E) Potential Pastoral Intern for 2024 – There is nothing to report at this time, but hopefully by the August Council meeting there will be more to report.

5) New Business

5A) 2024 Ministry Funding Plan Drafts are due September 15 – Carolyn will send out a reminder letter.

5B) Potential New Electronic Sign – Based on the member feedback of the new electronic sign at The Church on The Main, council requested that Carolyn follow up to get information on the costs to replace our sign. Everyone agreed this would be a great benefit for posting services and other activities at the church.

5C) Rainbow Connection Update – Pastor Monica is planning to meet with the people who run the South Paw Café after her vacation. They have offered a possible space for the Rainbow Connection meetings.

5D) Update on Media Consultant – Carol Webster is retiring. Her last day will be September 30 and the last work she will do with us will be the October Newsletter. Therefore, the congregation will need to hire one or two people for the website revisions, social media posts, and publicity. Carol has offered to put together a list of everything she does and help generate position description(s).

5E) Chapel Garden Request – Bruce and Nancy Pritchard have done a great deal of work to get the chapel garden in better condition. Bruce is requesting we consider opening the garden for people to enjoy and add a bench. The council thought this was a great idea. Monica said Marcia could unlock it and we would investigate options for a bench.

5F) Council Meeting for July – The council voted to not have an in-person July meeting. Any business which comes up prior to the August meeting will be done electronically.

6) Council Roundtable

7) Pastor Monica closed the meeting with prayer.