

DRAFT Church Council Minutes

February 18, 2020

Present: Peter Mueller, Gemina Petruzelli, Beverly Hawkes, Mary Fechtig, David Geen, Sue Fleming, Julie Ridl, Marty Coffin

1. *Welcome* – Pete
2. *January 2020 Minutes* – Bev distributed drafts prior to meeting with no corrections or additions.
Motion: from David to approve. Gemina second. Motion approved.
Action: Julie will post the approved minutes in the Friendship Hall and the E-pistle.
3. *Pastor’s Report* – Julie distributed the “Sabbatical Office Report.” SEE ATTACHED.
Discussion:
 - a. Congregants request that council re-think decision to not tape services during sabbatical. Decision to stay the course as originally agreed to by council and Pastor Sal prior to the sabbatical.
 - b. Congregant concerned about Sunday snow/ice removal not meeting standards.
Action: David offered to shovel for the remaining winter season. Marty is addressing the snow blower issues and will also clear walkways when in town.
 - c. Easter Lily offering envelopes will be made available in pews and announced in E-pistle and bulletin as well as a reminder of the year round Sunday altar flowers sign-up sheet in the Friendship Hall.
 - d. End date for Julie’s Administrative Assistant position after Pastor Sal returns. Council agreed that Julie should stay on and overlap with Pastor Sal’s return to assist with his “catching up” work load. Tentative date is mid-April.

Upcoming Events:

- a. Stephen Ministry Training – 4 participants
- b. 25 million stitches – Sue - Hosted by the Wednesday “Knit Knights”, Sue has organized several volunteers who will be stitching panels as part of a global project to create 25 million stitches that represent the number of worldwide refugees. These panels will then be assembled and displayed at the Verge Center for the Arts in Sacramento to raise awareness of the global refugee crisis and visually represent the sheer volume of people fleeing from their homes. Coinciding with this event, the knitting crew will be having a yarn swap with any remaining supplies being donated to local charities.
- c. Creation Justice Team
 - Coordinating with Douglas, Saugatuck and Saugatuck Township to address recycling concerns.
 - Working with local schools to share information on rain gardens and organize educational events.

4. *Financial Report* – Gemina – Reports are forthcoming.
5. *Trustee Report* – Marty
 - a. Sunday snow removal – see above #3b.
 - b. Obtained campus vendor information from Larry Fuerst (business cards).

Action: Julie will collate with copy sent to Marty.

Note: Mary discussed the current gathering of data (that includes contact lists such as this), office files etc. being eventually digitized with approval from Pastor Sal.
6. *Committee/Group Updates* – Sue – *Grant Proposal Committee*
 - a. Sylvia’s Place requesting unrestrictive \$3,500 funding.
 - Background: Sylvia’s Place provides services for victims of domestic violence and remains the only domestic violence safe house in Allegan County.
 - The Grant Proposal Committee has vetted and approved the application.

Motion: from Mary to approve \$3,500 in unrestricted funding to Sylvia’s Place. Marty second. Motion approved.
7. *Ongoing Business* – Pete/Mary
 - a. Lead gift capital campaign.
 - Mary offered a brief review of the process that began with congregational approval of the building concept at the mid-year congregational meeting. This set in motion the feasibility study that included a meeting with construction contractors to determine approximate construction costs. Having this information resulted in a better and more informed approach when meeting with lead donors.
 - Goal is to have completed the lead donor commitments prior to the annual congregational meeting in June (tentative date June 21, 2020 subject to Pastor Sal et al approval) when the congregation will be asked how they want to roll out the remaining capital campaign funding.
 - Noted by Pete that best practice would be to have 50% of funding commitments be completed prior to presenting to the congregation.
 - Discussion regarding hiring outside consultant verses church members in leading the capital campaign. Decision made to continue with designated church members.

Rationale:

 - ❖ Small size of congregation lends itself to a more comfortable, familiar and personal approach.
 - ❖ Members understand the milieu of DUCC.
 - ❖ Eliminates the additional cost of outside consultant.
 - ❖ Designated members of the congregation are qualified to lead a capital campaign.
 - b. Technology Committee proposal – Julie
 - Julie distributed copies of the proposal.
 - Discussion reached the conclusion that further clarification of the Tech

Committee's stated mission and duties is needed in addition to input from Pastor Sal.

Action: Julie will notify Chris Clark of council's decision to put on hold approval of proposal until Pastor Sal returns from sabbatical.

8. *Adjournment* – 7:00 pm.

Motion: from Mary. David second. Motion approved.