

APPROVED Church Council Minutes

January 18, 2022

Present: Pastor Sal Sapienza, Peter Mueller, Beverly Hawkes, David Geen, Stan Greene. Stacy Honson and Jim Kern attended via Zoom.

Excused: Marty Coffin

Guests: Bud Baty, Jodi Berault and Floyd Fleming attended via Zoom.

- 1) *Welcome and Introduction* – Pete welcomed Bud, Jodi and Floyd.
- 2) *Opening Prayer* – Pastor Sal opened the meeting with prayer at 6:05 pm.
- 3) *December 2021 Meeting Minutes* – Bev distributed the final draft prior to the meeting.
Motion: from David to approve. Stan second. Motion approved.
January 2022 Mid-year Congregational Meeting Minutes – Bev distributed the final draft prior to the meeting.
Motion: from Pastor Sal to approve. Jim second. Motion approved.
Action: The minutes will be in the E-pistle and posted on the Friendship Hall bulletin board.
- 4) *Pastor's Report* – Pastor Sal distributed the report prior to the meeting.
Highlights include the arrival of the Afghan family we are sponsoring and the positive response that we have received from our press release in the Commercial Record and Facebook post. We are grateful for the donated items and financial support we have received from the community that include not only church members but non-members as well.
Action: The detailed report will be in the E-pistle and posted on the Friendship Hall bulletin board.
- 5) *Financial Report* – Stacy distributed a summary prior to the meeting and a profit and loss comparison July-December 2021.
Income YTD is \$22,739 or 18% over budget.
Expenses YTD are \$16,159 or 11% over budget.
- 6) *Trustee Report* – Pete
 - a) Pastor Sal's office keypad has been installed.
 - b) 88 Spring St.:
 - Keypad entrance code has been changed to provide privacy for our Afghan family.
 - New blinds were installed
 - Garbage disposal was repaired.
 - c) Pastor Sal's ceiling repair is forthcoming.
- 7) *Committee/Group Updates*
- 8) *Ongoing Business*
 - a) Facility Plan B update – Pastor Sal gave a brief overview of Council's decision to place the campus expansion on hold due to the pandemic and moving onto Plan B. Being good stewards of our 140-year-old church building, and noting that the sanctuary hasn't been updated for over 20 years, it was agreed that the sanctuary take priority for refurbishment with church member Bud Baty taking the lead.

-Sanctuary wallcovering – Bud offered two options after the wallcovering removal.

1. Sandblast the plaster and paint if the condition of the plaster allows.
2. Replace the wallcovering (the most likely scenario).

Wallcovering considerations – Jodi and Floyd suggested that a commercial grade, soft texture, linen-like, subtle, soft blue or ivory covering that will blend in well with the stained- glass windows. The covering would be wipeable with a dry cloth or soft vacuum.

-Pews and wainscoting – Bud suggested that staining would be best but will continue to consider other options.

-Church front doors – Bud is looking at many options for reconditioning and suggested that an awning over the doors would provide protection for the doors in the future.

- Drapes behind the altar need replacement or repair. Noted that church member Jim Bailey is looking into.

Action: Jodi has an appointment Tuesday regarding wallcovering pricing. Bud will continue to report back to council his findings.

- b) C-19 issues and planning – Pastor Sal shared that 7 of the 26 churches in the Grand West Association are only offering virtual Sunday services for the winter. Council, with Pastor Sal in agreement, affirmed that though our in-house Sunday service attendance is low, continuing with both in-house and virtual is preferred.

Action: Both in-house and virtual Sunday services will continue. Current Allegan County Covid-19 updates and recommendations will continue in the E-pistle, as well as the new government website for obtaining 4 free Covid testing kits per household.

9) *New Business*

10) *Next Meeting Date* – February 15 @ 6pm.

11) *Adjournment* – 6:52pm.

Motion: from David. Stan second. Motion approved.