

APPROVED Church Council Minutes

March 15, 2022

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

Excused: Marty Coffin

1. *Welcome and Introduction* – Pete
2. *Opening Prayer* – Pastor Sal opened the meeting with prayer at 6:03 pm.
3. *February 2022 Meeting Minutes* – Bev distributed the final draft prior to the meeting.
Motion: from Stan to approve. David 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 an update on the Afghan family we have been sponsoring for over two months; thank you to everyone who helped with a church member's recent move; and, thank you to the Art Guild for the beautiful Lenten installation in the church. Additional information with regard to the 140th Anniversary, the Pride celebrations, and the new Michigan Conference Minister will be shared during "Ongoing Business" and "New Business."
Action: The detailed report will be in the E-pistle and posted on the Friendship Hall bulletin board.
5. *Financial Report* – Stacy distributed a financial summary for February, P&L comparison, and Budget vs. Actuals FY 22 prior to the meeting.
 - a) Collections for the Afghan family in February were \$1,887 and expenditures for the family which are under Mission expense were \$4,376 for the month. YTD, we have collected \$11,058 for the family and have spent \$5,297.
 - b) On a net basis, our collections income was \$20,811 vs. a budget of \$20,925.
 - c) On a YTD our net collections are over budget by \$24,000.
 - d) Our net income for the month was \$3,000 vs. a budgeted loss of \$2,800.Noted:
 - The Financial Oversight Committee (FOC) will be restarted when Stacy returns in the Spring.
 - Reminder that UCC's special collection "One Great Hour of Sharing" will be on March 27th. Envelopes will be made available in the pews as well as online access for giving. DUCC has matched the donated amount in the past.
6. *Trustee Report*- Pastor Sal/Pete
Marty to notify Council if he will continue as Trustee after his term ends this June. Noted that Kelly Wright has agreed to fill the position if needed.
7. *Committee/Group Updates* – Pastor Sal
 - a) Grant Proposal Committee (GPC) facilitator Karen Clark will ask a current GPC member if there is interest in filling her position this June.
 - b) Barb Lucier has agreed to fill GPC member Peg Donahue's vacated position.

8. *Ongoing Business* – Pete/Pastor Sal

a) Covid-19 issues and planning:

Allegan County Health Department's Covid-19 community transmission rate is now low.

Discussion and updates:

- 1) Wearing a mask during Sunday services will now be optional with masks still being available at both entrances.
- 2) Hand sanitizing stations will remain as well as air purifiers.
- 3) The passing of the offering plate will resume.
- 4) Communion will continue with the use of individual disposable communion cups while the supply lasts.
- 5) Sunday coffee hour following the service (with only coffee being offered), will resume using Styrofoam cups. (Noted: serving food at coffee hour will be revisited at a later date).

Action: Covid-19 updates will be announced in the E-pistle and at Sunday service.

b) Facility Plan B is ongoing. Updates that will include wallcovering samples and front church doors refurbishing ideas will be presented at our next meeting by Jodi Berault, Bud Baty, and Floyd Fleming.

c) Afghan Family Update: The Task Force continues to provide transportation to and from work, arranging and driving to medical appointments, shopping, family visits in Holland etc. Two congregants have donated a car to the family. The Afghan father has passed the written driving exam and congregants have been helping with the required driving practice in preparation for the road exam.

d) Church's 140th anniversary celebration has been scheduled for June 5th, Pentecost Sunday, following the service from 11am-1pm.

- 1) There are no conflicting Douglas events at this time.
- 2) The street will be blocked off for the event following the submission of an application with the City of the Village of Douglas.
- 3) The event will be combined with our annual church picnic (hot dogs etc.).
- 4) Being Pentecost Sunday, congregants will be wearing red for the group photo.
- 5) Former pastors will be invited.
- 6) Live music will be part of the celebration.

Action: Pastor Sal will complete the application process for the blocking off of the street. Pete will check on musical entertainment.

e) Community Pride Event in Douglas/Saugatuck has been scheduled for June 1st-June 4th. Council agreed at February's meeting to sponsor one event. Pastor Sal shared some of the activities being offered. It was agreed that DUCC would cover the expenses of the historian coming to speak at the History Center as part of the "A Century of Progress" LGBTQ exhibit. This would include the speaker's gas expenses from Chicago, stipend and housing June 1st and 2nd.

Noted: DUCC will march with the church banner in the Pride parade. DUCC will be designated as a sponsor of the History Center event only.

Motion: from Stacy that we give \$1000 towards sponsoring this event. Stan second. Motion approved.

Holland Pride Event is scheduled for June 25th. DUCC has sponsored in the past and participates with a booth.

Motion: from Bev to give \$500 towards this event. Jim second. Motion approved.

9. *New Business* – Pastor Sal shared that on March 19th votes will be taken to elect the Rev. Dr. Lillian Daniel as the next Michigan Conference Minister. DUCC will have 3 votes (Pastor Sal, Pete Mueller, Kathleen Mueller). Rev. Daniel will begin her new position on July 1, 2022 by overseeing and visiting 150+ UCC churches including DUCC sometime this summer.

Action: After the March 19th vote, Pastor Sal will announce in the E-pistle the election of the Michigan Conference Minister.

10. *Next Meeting Dates* – April 19 @ 6pm.

11. *Adjournment* – 7:03pm.

Motion: from Stan. David second. Motion approved.