

# APPROVED Church Council Minutes

March 21, 2023

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

Excused: Kelly Wright, Stan Greene.

1. *Welcome and Introduction*
2. *Opening Prayer* – Pastor Sal opened the meeting with prayer at 6:03 pm.
3. *February 2023 Meeting Minutes* – Bev distributed the final draft prior to the meeting.  
**Motion:** from Jim 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 March report prior to the meeting.  
Highlights:
  - a) A sold-out crowd on March 11 welcomed back author and activist John Pavlovitz to our church.
  - b) A special “Movie Night” at Douglas UCC on April 12 will feature a screening of the award-winning documentary, *Radical Grace*, followed by a Q&A with its director, Rebecca Parrish.  
**Action:** The detailed report will be in the E-pistle and posted on the Friendship Hall bulletin board.
5. *Financial Report* – March report is pending per Stacy. Cash flow remains good per Jim.
6. *Trustee Report* – Kelly submitted a written and verbal report to Pete prior to the meeting.
  - a) Campus storage cleanup and organizing: dates and times TBD.
  - b) 88 Spring St:  
Refresh budget shows a balance of \$1300 remaining of the budgeted \$30,000.
    - 1) Painting is complete; floor is repaired and carpet installed; window blinds installed but large room blind installation is in process; new bath accessories/fixtures and lights installed; technology closet light installed; majority of the office furniture installed; and, signage ordered.
    - 2) Upcoming activities include:
      - Donation of remaining items- Pete to meet “Bibles for Mexico” this Thursday for pick-up.
      - Complete technology installation – Best Buy Geek Squad is scheduled for March 31.
      - Final interior cleaning
      - Signage installation

- c) Locks for interior sanctuary doors: Congregant suggested locks be installed to provide additional security for technology equipment. Discussion concluded that additional locks were not necessary at this time.

**Motion:** from Jim that additional locks on the interior sanctuary doors not be installed. David second. Motion approved.

7. *Committee/Group Updates*

Safety and Wellness Committee – Pete.

Congregational survey completed. Results pending. Mike VerMerris will schedule a Sunday volunteer training session that will include security training for May or June.

8. *Ongoing Business*

a) Phased campus project capital campaign:

- 1) Retreat House (RH): Pastor Sal's former office will be converted into a meditation/reading room for the benefit of RH guests. Kathleen Mueller and Gemina Petruzzelli are working on the décor and furnishing needs. It was noted that ceiling repair work also needs to be done.

**Motion:** from Stacy that \$1500 be budgeted for the RH office refresh. Jim second. Motion approved.

2) 88 Spring St (SS):

- A. Front entryway: old deck removal and new deck concepts.

**Action:** Pete will ask Jeff Spangler for ideas and designs.

- B. Landscaping:

**Action:** Stacy and David will explore landscaping needs and cost estimates.

Noted: fence replacement may be necessary between SS and neighboring house.

3) Church/Friendship Hall (FH):

- A. Connecting wall roof needs repair due to water damage found when roof was replaced last July.

**Action:** Pete will ask Kelly to get a bid to repair.

- B. FH kitchen refresh:

Discussion:

- Current kitchen setup does not meet the needs for events and gatherings.
- Catering type kitchen would better accommodate catering services with food being brought in already prepared and served from the kitchen.

**Action:** Stacy and Jim will explore kitchen ideas and cost estimates.

Noted: Pete will distribute to Council an updated budget for the phased campus renovation plan.

b) 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Pot Lucks – Pastor Sal

Several congregants have expressed the desire to return to 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday potlucks that were put on hold because of the pandemic.

**Action:** Pastor Sal will ask Julie to develop a survey to determine congregational interest in resuming the potlucks, announce that the survey will be in the E-pistle, and, update the requesting congregants of same.

9. *New Business*

- a) Community Pride Event scheduled for June has asked DUCC to again sponsor. Last year we approved \$1500 towards the event.  
**Motion:** from Stacy to approve \$1500 for the Community Pride Event. Pastor Sal second. Motion approved.
- b) Douglas zoning issues and opportunities- Jeff Spangler will discuss at our next meeting.
- c) Scheduling – Pete
  - 1) The three new Council members will be joining us for our May and June meetings to observe the proceedings.
  - 2) The annual Congregational Meeting for FY24 is scheduled for June 25.  
**Action:** Julie will announce the date in the E-pistle at least 2 weeks prior to the event. The Congregational Meeting Minutes from June 2022 will also be in the E-pistle and posted on the Friendship Hall bulletin board for review 2 weeks prior.

10. *Next Meeting Date* – April 18 at 6 pm.

11. *Adjournment* – 7:03 pm.

**Motion:** from Jim to adjourn. Pastor Sal second. Motion approved.