

APPROVED Church Council Minutes

September 21, 2021

Present: Pastor Sal Sapienza, Peter Mueller, Jim Kern, Stacy Honson, Beverly Hawkes, Stan Greene, Marty Coffin

Excused: David Geen

Guests: Dick Bont, Ruth VandenBosch

1. *Welcome and Introduction:* Pete introduced Dick and Ruth.
2. *Opening Prayer:* Pastor Sal opened with prayer at 6:02 pm.
3. *August 2021 Meeting Minutes* – Bev distributed the final draft prior to the meeting.
Motion: from Stacy 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:
 - a) Grateful for the Douglas Social donations and the \$8,885 the DUCC Team raised for the CROP Hunger Walk.
 - b) Artwork from a local student through the Saugatuck Center for the Arts “Art-a-Loan” Program, was selected to be displayed for one year in the Friendship Hall beginning at the end of October. Included with the artwork will be a photo of the student and a description and meaning of the piece.
 - c) On October 3rd Ginny Mikita will be preaching at DUCC and Pastor Sal will be preaching at Hope Church in Holland for World Communion Sunday.
Action: The detailed report will be in the E-pistle and posted on the Friendship Hall bulletin board.
5. *Financial Report* – Stacy distributed the P/L for July, August and YTD compared to budget.
Observations report included:
 - a) In total, contributions are slightly above budget.
 - b) In total, a “loss” of \$3300 for the month of August is shown due to catching up on health, life and retirement payments to UCC but the bottom line is on target on the YTD basis.
6. *Trustee Report* – Marty and Dick Bont
 - a) Air Conditioning and furnace bids for the Retreat House obtained by Kathleen Mueller (Retreat House Coordinator) and reviewed by Marty.
Note: All three bids do not include electrical (approximately \$500.00)
 - 1) Baumann & Degroot: \$6,341.00 (includes ministry discount).
 - 2) Bremer & Bouman: \$7,658.00
 - 3) Don's Heating: \$8,750.00**Motion:** from Pastor Sal to accept Baumann & Degroot bid of \$6,341.00. Marty second. Motion approved.

Action: Kathleen will contact Chad Baumann of Baumann & Degroot, arrange for the installation and provide Chad with Pastor Sal's and Marty's contact information so they can be present for initial install.

b) Memorial Garden Rejuvenation – Dick Bont distributed a breakdown of the estimated costs prior to the meeting.

- 1) Sprinkling system is not working as it should due to broken sprinkler heads etc.
Repairs, parts, labor (for the entire campus system): \$730.00.
- 2) Tree Trimming of lower branches is needed to let in light for the plants (Bill's tree service): \$500.00.
- 3) New Plants (deer resistant): \$300.00.
- 4) Clean-up (Removal of plants, general clean-up and planting new): \$320.00.
- 5) Benches and Gravel (Benches need to be cleaned and refinished. Dick offered to do the labor): \$150.00.
- 6) New Edging and Mulch: \$200.00.
- 7) Contingency: \$300.00.
Total: \$2500.00.

Motion: from Jim to approve \$2500.00. Marty second. Motion approved.

Action: Dick will take the lead on the Memorial Garden Rejuvenation and provide the labor for updating the benches. Marty and Dick will address the sprinkling system issues.

7. *Committee/Group Updates* – Pete

Congregant requested that Council approve funding for the purchase of several copies of Paul Bogard's book, *The End of Night* for the Saugatuck-Douglas Library as part of the "Community Book Read." The Grant Proposal Committee (GPC) turned down the request because the guidelines for funding were not met. Council agreed that the book's premise and the "Community Book Read" is a worthwhile endeavor, but agreed with GPC's decision to not approve.

Action: Pete will notify the requesting congregant of Council's decision.

8. *Ongoing Business* – Pete

- a) C-19 issues and planning: Need to set target date for vaccination booster clinic set-up as more information becomes available. (See *New Business*).
- b) Facilities update: Pastor Sal and Pete met with congregant Jeff Spangler because of his experience as a general contractor.

Discussion:

- 1) Since returning to in-house Sunday services in addition to streaming, we average 85 in-person attendees.
- 2) Need remains for the addition of meeting rooms and a Pastor's office.
- 3) Circumstances remain uncertain and fluid.
- 4) Rather than presenting a clearly defined facilities expansion plan at the Mid-Year Congregational Meeting in January, suggestion was made to have a brainstorming session instead. Break-out groups could be facilitated to provide feedback and critique of our aspirations.

Action: Council will continue to discuss ideas and strategies.

9. *New Business*

- a) C-19 vaccination station at DUCC – Ruth VandenBosch RN is a volunteer vaccinator through the Allegan County Health Department and is requesting that DUCC agree to provide the space for a one-day C-19 booster clinic.
- 1) Allegan County Health Department would supervise the clinic day, provide the vaccines and other needed supplies, and dispose of the used needles and syringes.
 - 2) Two vaccinators and two watchers (RN's) will be required (congregation has several RN members who may be willing to participate).
 - 3) Space needed for privacy when receiving the vaccine as well as space for registration verification prior and for waiting after.
 - 4) Question remains if C-19 vaccine booster day is for congregants only or will also include community outreach.
- Action:** Ruth will provide to Council updates from the Allegan County Health Department regarding C-19 booster availability, logistics, eligibility requirements etc.

b) CROP Walk matching funds: \$5000.00 is the budgeted amount to be donated.

c) Alternate time for Council Meetings: Hybrid meetings (zoom and in-person) will be set up for the future.

d) Afghan refugee crisis: Anna-Lisa Cox sent a request to DUCC asking if we could assist her as co-sponsors for an Afghan refugee family. She has been working with Bethany Christian Services who, with other organizations, are coordinating Afghan family resettlement in Western Michigan. Anna-Lisa has been approved to house a family and is requesting a support team of 10-12 people who can commit to a 6-12 month timeframe of assistance.

Action: Council is in agreement that this is a feasible and worthy endeavor. Bev will contact Bob Kenny, Social Justice Committee (SJ) Facilitator, to gather more information for moving forward. SJ will notify Pastor Sal and Council with status updates.

10. *Next Meeting Date* – October 19 @6pm.

11. *Adjournment* – 7:45pm.

Motion: from Jim. Stan second. Motion approved.