

# January Church Council Minutes

January 21, 2020

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

1. *Welcome and Introduction* – Pete welcomed Marty to his first council meeting as trustee.

2. *December 2019 Council Meeting Minutes and January 2020 Mid-year Congregational Meeting Minutes* – Bev distributed drafts prior to today’s meeting with noted correction.

**Motion:** from David to approve. Sue second. Motion approved.

**Action:** Julie will post the approved minutes in the Friendship Hall and the E-pistle.

3. *Pastor’s Report* – Julie Ridl distributed the “Sabbatical Office Report” and updated “Order of Service” document. SEE ATTACHED.

**In Addition:**

- a. Congregant asked council to approve a DUCC social media bulletin board where members could communicate, recommend vendors/services, lost and found, for sale etc.

Discussion of issues:

- How would content be managed and by whom?
- How would potential vendors be vetted?

**Action:** Julie will notify congregant that because of the issues involved the request is denied.

- b. Funeral request by non-church member (Joe Varella) for August 1, 2020.

Discussion of issues:

- Shall we make the August 1<sup>st</sup> date available? Yes.
- What are the costs for the use of the sanctuary and Friendship Hall?

**Action:** Pete will check if there is an established pricing protocol.

NOTE: It was noted that a process for members and non-members needs to be re-examined if already in place, or established if not in place, regarding the use of the church’s facilities that would include pricing etc.

- Who would preside over the service? Rev. Fred Hamlin has offered his services for August 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Action:** Julie will put the August 1<sup>st</sup> date on the church calendar and notify Joe that:

- The date has been approved.
- Rev. Fred will preside.
- The precise costs are forthcoming.

- c. Request for church aprons from Wendy Hamlin that displays UCC’s “Be the Church” logo as a thank you to John Wilming for providing the pancake breakfast on February 2<sup>nd</sup> and for future use by the cooking crew at socials etc. Julie shared photo of aprons.

**Action:** Council agreed that 6 aprons can be ordered. Julie will notify Wendy.

4. *Financial Report* – Gemina. Distributed prior to meeting: Narrative Report; Budget vs. Actual Report July 2019-December 2019; YTD December 31, 2019 Mission Budget vs. Spending Report. SEE ATTACHED.
5. *Financial Oversight Committee Report* – Mary. Due to several other commitments Mary notified council that she has resigned her position on FOC. Gemina has agreed to be the liaison between council and FOC.
6. *Trustee Report* – Marty
  - a. Developing a calendar for routine church campus needs such as spring/fall cleanup (noted that it coincides with City of Douglas cleanup), sprinkler system turn on and off etc.

Discussion: Additional leaf removal needs beyond City of Douglas cleanup.

**Action:** Marty will contact Larry Fuerst for other routine scheduling dates and inquire about agreement with Martin Rosa regarding leaf removal.

- b. Sunday snow removal volunteer signup sheet has not been located. David offered to shovel but will need coverage when out of town. Noted that Cindy Winkler had also volunteered weekly.

**Action:** Julie will confirm with Cindy her signup dates and post in the bulletin and E-pistle the need for additional volunteers.

- c. Snow removal: Monday – Saturday. Has been done by Patrick M. in the past.

**Action:** Marty will confirm with Patrick that he will continue.

7. *Committee/Group Updates: Grant Proposal Committee* – Sue
  - a. John Kerr has resigned from the committee. Karen Clark has joined the committee.
  - b. Follow-up on ESCAPE Ministries \$2500 request for 6 new laptops. The organization's acceptance regarding DUCC's progressive positions has not been verified. In addition, there has been inappropriate pressure applied regarding the monies request.

**Motion:** from David to decline the grant request at this time with the understanding that they can reapply if desired after July 1, 2020. Mary second. Motion approved.

**Action:** Sue will notify Rev. Watts from ESCAPE Ministries of council's decision.

8. *Ongoing Business* –Pete/Julie/Gemina/Mary
  - a. Procedure to follow if scheduled homily sabbatical speaker has to cancel or weather related service cancellation: Pete/Julie will confer and notify WZZM by 6 am. Council agrees.
  - b. Response to suggestion for an outside audit vs. an inside audit and bonding the treasurer. Safe guards regarding the current audit procedure were discussed with members at the January 2020 Mid-year Congregational Meeting.

**Action:** Gemina will invite Mike Boston to join her and Mary in designing a schematic that will show the checks and balances that have been built over time into DUCC's

finances. This schematic will be placed in the record to address further concerns and questions.

c. Church Records:

- Congregant asked about Births/Deaths/Weddings record keeping at DUCC.

**Action:**

- Julie will look for wedding records in pastor Sal's office. Mike Vermerris who compiles the annual church directory will be asked about birth/death records.
- Note: File sharing needed between committees. Julie and Gemina will explore setting up Dropbox.

d. Lead Gift Capital Campaign - Pete

- Pete met with congregant interested in donating to the capital campaign. Information was shared including building slides and video.
- Pete distributed a sample brochure that could to be given to potential donors.

**Action:** Mary and Pete to meet and work on strategy for fundraising ideas with lead donors.

9. *New Business* – Pete

a. Tech Committee Proposal

- Informal "AV Club" proposal from Chris Clark distributed. This included the club's charge/scope/potential members/future ideas.

Discussion: Corrections and suggestions made. Council is favorable to the formation of the Tech committee.

**Action:** Pete will meet with Chris and share the council's recommendations with the request that a formal proposal be introduced for further consideration.

10. *Adjournment* – 7:34 pm.

**Motion:** from Sue. David second. Motion approved.