

● ~~DRAFT~~ Church Council Minutes

June 11, 2019

Present: Pastor Sal, Peter Mueller, Karen Clark, Mike Boston, Sue Fleming, Larry Fuerst

Absent: Mary Fechtig

Guests: Gemina Petruzelli, Beverly Hawkes, and David Geen

1. Opening Prayer – Pastor Sal opened the meeting with a prayer at 6:00 pm.
2. Welcome/Introduction – Pete welcomed Gemina Petruzelli, Bev Hawkes, and David Geen
3. May 2019 Council Minutes – Sue moved to approve the minutes. Mike second. Minutes were approved.
4. Pastor’s Report – Pastor Sal distributed his report before the meeting. Highlights included the following.
 - a. Attendance and Giving - Average attendance and giving remain high.
 - b. Pride Event in Douglas - The Community Pride event held on June 1st went very well. Many of the organizers and volunteers for the event were members of Douglas UCC.
 - c. Summer Interns -Two of our summer interns have moved into the Retreat House. Pastor Sal thanked Kathleen Mueller for making them feel welcome.
 - d. New members – A new members class was held on June 2. 17 People took part and plan to join on June 30.
 - e. Two services – We will go to two services from July 7 to September 1. The service times will be 9 am and 11 am with coffee hour in between.
 - f. Annual Meeting – Our Annual Meeting will take place on Sunday June 16 from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm.
 - g. Douglas Socials and Church Picnic – We will have a food booth at the Douglas Summer Socials on June 27, July 25, and August 22. Our third annual Church Picnic will take place on August 7 at Beery Field.
 - h. Summit on Race and Inclusion – Douglas UCC was a sponsor for this conference at Hope College on June 11. Four members of our church and Pastor Sal attended. Bev Hawkes gave a summary of the morning keynote speaker’s presentation. Rudy Valdez shared his documentary titled *The Sentence*, a film about the problems created for families due to mandatory minimum prison sentences. John Pavlovitz was the afternoon keynote speaker. The conference was sold out with more than 700 people in attendance.
5. Financial Report – Mike Boston distributed his report ahead of time.
 - a. Missions – A donation of \$2,000 was made to the greater UCC’s *Shaping our Future Campaign*. This is the first of three \$2,000 donations to be made over three years. Mission spending is currently

- under budget, but the Grant Proposal Committee is reviewing two more grants. Sue will follow up with them.
- b. Church Operating – Monthly income was unfavorable by \$1,589. Collections were lower than budgeted, however, year-to-date income is favorable by \$26,963.
 - c. Expenses – Expenses for the month were favorable for the month by \$1,051. Year-to-date expenses were unfavorable by \$2,410.
 - d. Cash Position – At the end of May our cash on hand was \$11,566 and we transferred \$15,000 to our UCF Investment Account. A total of \$121,537 has been transferred to this account over the past three years.
 - e. Financial Oversight Committee – Pete suggested that this might be the umbrella title for the Isabel Graham Fund committee, The Investment Advisory Committee, the Planned Giving Committee, and the Treasury Oversight group.
 - f. Planned Giving – Will Gervais has talked with Julie Ridl about facilitating the Planned Giving Committee, which is part of the Endowment/Asset Plan.
6. Trustees Report – Larry Fuerst reported on the following.
- a. AED/CPR Training – will begin this weekend with another session scheduled for the following weekend. We have about 13 people who plan to attend the sessions.
 - b. Friendship Hall Floor – Larry has found someone to repair the floor in the entryway of the Friendship Hall.
 - c. Retreat House Deck – Larry is trying to find someone who will remove the deck.
 - d. Church and Friendship Hall Roof – This will need to be replaced within the next five years. It will probably be our largest maintenance expense.
7. Ongoing Business
- a. UCC Synod – Kathleen and Pete Mueller will plan to attend for one full day of the Synod. The cost will come from the funds budgeted for Stephen Ministers’ training.
 - b. Church Picnic – scheduled for August 7 with August 8 as a rain date.
 - c. Pastor Sal’s Sabbatical – Two people from the Pastoral Relations Committee will discuss Sal’s sabbatical with the congregation at Sunday’s Annual Meeting. They will be inviting the congregation to participate in one of two sessions to get congregational input regarding the sabbatical. We will also receive support from the Grand West Association in the event that a congregant is hospitalized or passes away. Pastor Sal will work with congregants who are willing to provide the Sunday message. Michael VerMerris has some historical notes about how sabbaticals were handled in the past.
 - d. Annual meeting agenda – Pete shared an agenda and Council provided input. He will be providing an overview of a PowerPoint presentation via email.

8. New Business

- a. Authorized signature for bank accounts - Karen moved that Gemina be an authorized signature on Douglas Congregational United Church of Christ Chemical Bank accounts ending in 6101 and 3791 and be approved as an administrator of the Chemical Bank online banking system. Please remove Mike Boston as an authorized check signer from the DUCC Chemical Bank checking accounts ending in 6101 and 3791. Larry second. Council approved.
- b. Summer collections – Mike will create the summer collection count schedule. He will reach out to past Council members to see if they might be willing to help. If a Council member needs a replacement and no one is available, they may reach out to another person to help with counting.
- c. Future Meeting Dates – Pete will revise the future meeting dates to ensure they remain on the third Tuesday of the month unless it is necessary to reschedule them. Pete reviewed guests who will be invited to future meetings per their request to discuss specific topics with Council.
- d. Council again expressed their gratefulness to Pete for his willingness to step into the Moderator’s position and to continue in this role for a two-year term.
- e. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.
- f. Next Regular Council Meeting Date – Tuesday July 16 at 6pm.