

Council Meeting 5/17/22

Hearth Room

7 p.m.

In attendance (some by Zoom): Kent Nack, Mary Fisher, Rev. Jeff Lindsay, Rick Groomes, Vice Moderator Deborah Eckland, Moderator Steve Anderson, Secretary Paige Didora, Rev Sara WG (and Josie), Shelby Wagner, Tim Anderson

7:07 - Opened with Prayer of Relational Intent and devotions

7:14 - Minutes from April - **Approved;**

7:14 - Minutes from Annual Meeting - **Approved.**

7:15 Senior Minister Report - Jeff:

- Finished the year well. Sunday services continue to get stronger
- There is a noticeable continued presence of visitors
- Programs had a challenging year but saw some growth
- Looking forward to summer - overnight camp, day camp, get-togethers in town
- Continue with both services over the summer
- Keep the momentum going
 - First Sunday of every month - Meetinghouse Together: July, August, September
- Staff retreat at the beginning of June
- Finishing up annual staff reviews
- We have been very impressed with Paul Rudo
- Pete Welch has brought a proposal to the MRT to build another tiny house this summer
 - For Sacred Settlement at Mosaic Church
- Joy Skjegstad has been in communication with us about our vision to become more of a “niche blessing” to our community
- Possible opportunities this summer for membership to come in affiliation with The Pilgrim Center and discuss feelings broadly related to name change
 - Listen, discuss, pray
 - People who have left to take a “break” of sorts may be one target group
 - All would be welcome
 - Recognition that even welcome change comes with loss
 - Be mindful of the spirit of the conversation and not open old wounds
- Importance of idea-sharing

7:36 Senior Associate Minister Report - Sara:

- Continued need to reach out to all members and determine their status, participation, etc.
 - As part of an engagement campaign for Fall
 - Deacons have prepared a survey
- Quarterly Congregational Meetings - somewhat informal, loose agenda but more of a conversation and a place for updates
 - Speaks to our congregational identity - congregational participation

7:50 Steve - Bell Tower needs

- Got some bids - Eric hired a project management firm - Roof Spec Inc
 - Project manager and Eric saw four bids (along with subgroup)
 - Recommended a company - Palmer West construction
 - Eric has asked that we authorize \$140k in order to have some room in the budget
 - Plan to ask Foundation to fund it
 - **Motion: Approve the award of the Bell Tower repairs for a maximum of \$140k as suggested by Palmer West Construction, and to request that the Foundation reimburse us - motion carries**
- New Positions
 - Jeanetta and Kris Henderson presented to HR committee positions they want to fill
 - Even before Jeanetta was hired, we realized there was no redundancy in admin roles and finance and operations (already in the budget)
 - New HR group met and went over roles and approves
 - Reminder that Alice steps down July 15
 - Steve Lindsay is out right now - need to hire someone for that spot
 - Also others stepping back in their hours - would like on-call person
 - A certain number of custodial hours is budgeted currently.
 - **Motion: Approve the hiring of a senior administration associate, a custodial staff member (indefinite), and a custodial staff member (on-call) - motion carries.**
 - Council agreed that Steve Anderson and Deborah Eckland could move forward with communicating a basic agreement of certain benefits for staff to the employment attorney for incorporation into the revised Employee Handbook she is preparing.
- Treasurer's Update
 - Jason Phillips updated Council on the church's finances. Giving was strong in April and in line with anticipated spending. Nancy Danielson is finalizing April financials, which will be shared when completed.
- Sara Wilhelm-Garbers discussed developing "progress measures"
 - An intentional bench-marking plan over the next 3-5 years.
 - This will involve the congregation giving of money, time, talents, and resources.