

Park United Methodist Church
Church Council Minutes
August 16, 2018

Members Present: Brock Reynolds, Kerry Beebe, Chris Velasco, Abbey Neptune, Heather Aanes, Carol Tower, Roxi Grimsley, Jon Weston, Bob Weston, Josh Greer, Pastor Phil Strom, and Pastor Dan Doughty

Members Absent: Twila Ehrich-Belton and Carl Jacobi

Guests: n/a

Agenda: Stood as presented.

Meeting to Order: 6:36 p.m. Roxi called the Council to order.

Celebrations – Pastor Dan opened the meeting with prayer. The Council shared celebrations in their lives. Those celebrations included weddings, improved health, good weather, an upcoming vacation, promotion at work, the upcoming school year, family time and a successful fair booth.

Meeting Minutes – The minutes were not available.

Music Team Update – It was expressed that Park is in desperate need of a leader for the music ministry. The Music Team has been reaching out to others in the music community, but, thus far, has not come up with a permanent solution. We have an organist locked in for one Sunday in September, October, and November. He is available for December as well as Christmas. The Council decided the Music Team should contact Ken Hager and confirm him for a Sunday in December as well as Christmas Eve.

The priority for the Music Team is to find an accompanist, not necessarily an organist. The decision was made to offer an individual \$250 recruiter's bonus for providing names of potential individuals to fill this role who are then hired. Carol will share this with Scott Bachman, Team Leader of the Music Team. The budget with regard to salary for the position was discussed.

Fair Booth – Jon reported that, operationally, all went well. The estimated income is the same as last year -- \$23,000 - \$25,000, with a net income is \$10,000. The Council expressed thanks for The Shop and 4-H volunteers that helped fill in the gaps to cover the shifts. The issue of opening and operating the booth while be short staffed was discussed. Ways to remedy this for future years was discussed.

Launch Team Update – Pastor Dan provided an update on the meeting that was held last week. The question posed to the group was, “What do we need to do to inspire us to invite others to worship with us?” Music was listed as a high priority, noting more contemporary music was preferred. The re-creation of Children’s Church was discussed. It is planned to start up again in September.

Children & Family Ministry Team – Pastor Phil distributed a proposal regarding the Family Ministry Team. The suggested size of the team is 10 – 15 individuals. There would be three “classes” each for a rotating three-year term. Pastors Dan and Phil and Josh will assemble the team and bring the names forth to the September Council meeting for approval. A motion was made by Jon, seconded by Bob, to approve the proposal presented by Pastor Phil. Motion carried.

Pastor Phil suggested that a Nominating Committee be re-established to fill current vacancies, including one on the Council. No decisions were made at this time, but this topic will be revisited at a future Council meeting.

Replacement on the Council – Joe Sparks has stepped down from the Council, creating a vacancy. Several individual’s names were mentioned. Follow up will take place with those individuals to gauge their interest. The term that is being filled runs through June 30, 2020.

AMP Camp – Heather shared an update of preparations for the event. There are currently 17 children registered, but the team is planning for more. She encouraged the Council to look at the list showing the need for help and supplies.

Various Urgent Items:

Pictorial Directory – The Pastors mentioned that when they asked for a pictorial directory from Park, it was 9 years old. To help our new Pastor when he/she arrives next summer it was suggested that we have an updated directory to help familiarize themselves with the congregation. The best time to begin this project is this fall. Pastor Phil said he is willing to head up this project. The Council approved moving forward with a new pictorial directory.

Sunday Worship Time – It was noted that the new church year starts September 9 and if we were considering changing worship time, this would be the appropriate time to do so. The Council discussed the advantages and disadvantages of moving worship time to 9:30 as well as leaving it at 9:00 a.m. After much discussion, the decision was leave the worship service at 9:00 a.m.

Opening/Closing Procedures for Sunday – The Pastors feel this is the responsibility of the Trustees, not the Pastor’s nor church staff. This topic was discussed at length. It was decided to ask the Custodian to turn on the air conditioners in the sanctuary on Fridays if the forecast deems it necessary. The closing up of the church after Fellowship time will now be the responsibility of

the individual(s) hosting coffee. Bob will contact Connie Krueger to relay this message, so it can be included in the list of duties for coffee host(s).

Josh also brought up the issue of closing the building on days other than Sundays.

Reports – The financial report was submitted to the Council prior to the meeting. Jon shared we are continuing to lag behind in giving from previous years. The current year deficit is sizable. Apportionments are paid through July; it was noted that staff is doing very well in controlling expenses.

Montessori Lease – This was tabled to later in the meeting in the hope that representatives from the school would attend the Council meeting. Unfortunately, they were unable to attend. Bob reported their current lease expires August 31, 2018; it has been extended previously three times. They are asking for another extension. They are also asking for more room and are willing to pay for it. It was noted they have been tenants for approximately 14 years.

The Council discussed their current lease rates and noted that it needs to be increased, if, for nothing but cost of living. The school is currently leasing 1,932 square feet of the educational wing, will occasional use of the sanctuary and fellowship hall for special events. Bob will gather rental data and related expenses (utilities, etc.) and bring the information to the September Council meeting.

Pastor Phil closed the meeting with prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Tower, Recording Secretary.