

Union Congregational Church  
Elk River, MN  
Church Council Minutes  
Thursday, November 2, 2017

Members Present: Patti Kubicka, Joyce Riess, Nancy Hassett, Joan Stevens, Robin Raudabaugh, Diane Narr, Gigi Nauer

Meeting was called to order at 6:45 pm

1. Opening activity and prayer
2. Call meeting to order – Patti Kubicka called to order at 6:45
3. Review and approve minutes from October 2017 Council meeting – Three changes recommended. Joyce motion, Diane second to approve with modifications.
4. Consensus and voting
  - a. Patti proposed a Consensus and Voting bylaw. Diane asked if tonight's attendance would be consensus. We have four teams represented and need three for a consensus, so it would be enough. Patti would be tie breaker if the situation arose.
  - b. Joan asked why we don't have as good of attendance as in the past. Robin thinks it is because work is being done at the various teams/committees.
  - c. Patti asked if Diaconate has a Council rep at their meeting. Robin said they do, Marce Ediger. There was additional discussion about Diaconate needing representation the Council meeting. Robin suggested someone (other than her) needs to tell them they need someone here if Marce can't make it.
  - d. Discussion moved to who should be voting representatives on Council.
    - i. It was suggested the pastor have a vote, but Robin said she's never been in a church where she's had a Council vote.
    - ii. Robin suggested the At Large members also be the Denominational Delegates. During a previous discussion, the decision was only one of the two would have a vote if both were present. Robin asked, if we have two At Large delegates, should they both get a vote? If not, why not? If there was only one vote for two people, what if they had opposite positions? Gigi suggested to rotate every other month who votes. Other options were flip a coin or, if they don't agree, abstain. Patti suggested tabling. We have until May to finalize.

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- iii. Consensus was also discussed, and it requires a simple majority – 50% to pass. Patti will rewrite and we will review next month.
  - iv. Nancy suggested, on the Sunday before the Council meeting, making an announcement reminding people of the Council meeting and that we have a line in the Wednesday News reminding people of the meeting. Patti asked when announcements for bulletin need to be at Church Office. Robin said by Tuesday.
5. Reports from ministry teams/committees:
- a. Trustees update
    - i. Confirmation Mary Schuldt for “At Large” member. Joan made motion to confirm. Diane second. Passed by consensus
    - ii. Servant Keeper Directory progress – Joan explained the types of things we can do with the application. It is set up for administrative use. Congregants cannot view. Joan proposed we put the online directory link on the website. People can go there via Wednesday News but cannot get there from the website. Robin would like to have a link on the website for the Wednesday News. Joan made a motion to make directory available on line through the portal. Joyce seconded. Approval by consensus.
  - b. Ministry Team updates
    - i. Diaconate – Did not receive a report. Robin said she doesn’t think they’ve asked for approval of Dave Foley as new member of Diaconate. Robin asked on their behalf. Diane motion. Joyce second. Approval by consensus.
    - ii. Liturgical Arts – No report because they have not met. Will meet on 11/4 to do the “Stepping up” preparation.
    - iii. Outreach & Justice – Nancy gave update
    - iv. Memorial – No report. Joyce reported she is signature on the account now.
    - v. Congregational Life (quarterly) – Report by Robin.
      - 1. They have a new subgroup – “Membership Rolls” (MR).
      - 2. Both Congregational Life (CL) and MR met.
      - 3. Discussed CL and team members.
        - a. Naomie V. will be on the CL team.
        - b. Nancy Anderson resigned.
      - 4. Motion to approve Naomie by Diane. Joan second. Consensus.

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5. Discussed MR subcommittee. They will have another meeting to talk about MR. Decision was to have one list – “Active Membership Roll.”
  6. Decided every year CL will ask 2-3 team members to look at membership rolls to make sure it is updated (add new confirmands, remove deaths, etc.).
  7. Every year CL will send a letter to every person on our membership list with update of information, how to receive the newsletter (snail or email), etc.
  8. CL called everyone on inactive list and going forward will not maintain inactive list.
  9. NO ONE IS BEING REMOVED FROM MEMBERSHIP ROLLS unless they request it.
- vi. Kitchen Renovation – Reported by Patti Kubicka – Vote passed at special meeting.
- vii. Centennial – Reported by Joyce Riess.
1. Met & made final details for bizarre. Will purchase a Square Reader to enable electronic payment. Reader will also read chip.
  2. Joyce announced Bill & Mary Heck are giving a vacation package to Silent Auction from 9-1 on Saturday. Minimum bid is \$200.
  3. Mary Wilson reported on research of using \$100 cash raffle. Church can legally do this. Centennial members not allowed to purchase raffle tickets.
  4. Book & bake sale netted \$586.
  5. Approved pledge for 2018.
  6. Donations approved. \$11,665 on hand.
- viii. Faith Formation and Faith Formation Director – Reported by Gigi Nauer.
1. Two new members – Ann Klockman & Chris Castegneri.
  2. Overall theme for the year is Faithful Response, and they plan to tie-in the theme to youth.
  3. An upcoming lesson will involve white privilege.
  4. Will help with bazaar & wrap gifts.
  5. For Stewardship Sunday on Nov 19<sup>th</sup>, youth will cook breakfast.

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6. Sunday's Kool – Talking Points For Families. Example: “What if God texted the Ten Commandments?” Talking Points are being put on webpage with link to text. You can only see it by using the link on a text. Robin suggested extending Talking Points to other family members. Also, text reminders to youth about Confirmation.
7. Diane would like to open it up to all members, like a post in eNews.
- c. Faith Formation Director – Gigi Nauer – Going forward, Director report will be combined with Faith Formation report.
- d. Revitalizing Pastor – Reported by Rev. Robin Raudabaugh
  - i. Attended many meetings.
  - ii. Two baptisms scheduled: New twins and Cyndy Patton's granddaughter.
  - iii. Diaconate invited Todd Goerke, Keith Stevens & Tony Rohs to explain how to use sound system.
  - iv. Stewardship team is going well and has had one brainstorming meeting.  
Stewardship will be year-long with quarterly activities beyond giving money.  
Stewardship will be portrayed as part of faithful response.
  - v. Heavy month with two funerals.
  - vi. Excited about Kitchen Renovation Team.
6. New items added to agenda – Nancy asked permission to host GR350 meetings at Union Church. Response was yes, as long as it is not in conflict with church values. Need to follow Building Use Policy, which Maggie will provide.
7. Next Church Council meeting:
  - a. Thursday, December 7th at 6:30 pm, Opening prayer/activity? Gigi volunteered to do.
8. Prayers and concerns – Aleta's family; friend Lois lost partner. Jerry Miller & family; Martha Travis had back surgery and is home again.
9. Closing prayer –
10. Adjourned at 8:45