

Council Meeting Minutes
May 8th, 2018
Zwingli UCC, Mount Vernon, WI

Council Members Present: Karen Fletcher, Scott Holmstrom, Pat Leavenworth, Barbara Schmidt, Mary Dowling, Pastor Brad Brookins

Absent: Jeff Jenkins, Alan Ferguson (Treasurer)

Meeting was called to order by Moderator, Karen Fletcher at 5:57 p.m.

1. Opening prayer was offered by Karen

2. Approval of minutes of April 10th

Mary motioned to file the April 10th minutes and Pat seconded. Motion carried.

3. Treasurer's Report:

- a) Karen presented the treasurer's report:
 - Revenue-to-date is \$34211, which is \$3763 less than budgeted
 - Scott motioned to file the treasurer's report and Barbara seconded. Motion carried.

4. Reports/Updates:

- a) We received a thank-you from the UCC Conference's, "Our Church's Wider Mission" for our contribution of \$1500
- b) We received a thank-you from Julie Von Eschen for the Christmas gift
- c) Long-Range Planning Committee
 - Pat presented the meeting minutes from the May 1st meeting
 - The LRPC recommends having an engineer perform a site assessment of the property to understand any building expansion limitations we may have
 - o The council agreed that a site assessment would be beneficial but recommended that no further steps be taken at this time
 - The LRPC asked the council for guidance on the committee's charge
 - o The council reviewed original charge and recommended that the committee focus on the well-being of the church more than the physical needs

5. Old Business:

- a) Shoe Box brat sale
 - 2019 dates have been reserved - July 20th and September 14th
- b) Memorial committee
 - Karen is working on identifying a new chair for the committee
- c) Safety committee
 - Karen talked to Alan Schmid (non-member) and Dave Harvey and they are willing to provide guidance to the committee
 - Karen and Alan are going to an active shooting preparedness seminar at the UCC in Fitchburg in ~2 weeks
 - The committee is working to identify other safety issues that need to be addressed
 - The committee will communicate and emergency plan to the congregation when complete
- d) The new Mt. Vernon UCC signs have arrived for the East and West entrances to town.
Alan to coordinate installation.
- e) Church committee summary (no discussion this meeting)

- There are a lot of new members in the church and it would be great to get them involved. Now would be a good time to publish a list of all the committees with a description of what each does so everyone is aware of the service opportunities available.

6. New Business:

- a) Annual garage sale
 - This is the last year the guild will facilitate the garage sale due to lack of participation
 - Proceeds from the sale go to help fund the 4th BBQ
 - Close to \$1000 was raised last year
 - The council discussed that little is known about the Women's Guild. Karen to prepare a statement about the guild to be shared with the congregation.
- b) Endowment committee
 - A new committee member is needed
 - The council provided a few recommendations - Pat to follow-up
 - Phil Leavenworth has offered to be on it for one more year if necessary
- c) Solar energy webinar
 - Brad mentioned that there is a webinar in a couple weeks that outlines practical ways to make solar energy installation a reality
 - Brad has signed-up and has offered a viewing session to anyone that wants to participate
- d) General concerns from Brad
 - It's getting difficult to get people to sign-up/commit to help-out
 - Brad feels this is a reflection on how we do church, and that we are not engaging people well enough to be active members
 - Brad is going to look for outside resources on how to do church differently
 - Brad posed the question – "What would we like to see to make your life better at this church?"
 - The council agreed that this could be a task/focus for the LRPC
- e) 32nd General Synod
 - The WI Conference UCC is hosting the event in 2019 in Milwaukee
 - The council discussed a donation of \$250 to help fund the event, with \$100 coming from the Guild, and \$50 from Brad's continuing education fund
 - Mary motioned and Scott seconded for the church to make a \$100 donation from the general fund. Motion carried.

6. Closing prayer was offered by Brad

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 pm

The next meeting date is set for June 12th, 2018 at 6:00 P.M.

Submitted by Scott Holmstrom