

Mount Vernon UCC Council Meeting Minutes  
February 14, 2017  
Church Roundtable  
6:00-7:30 PM

**Attendees:** Jeff Jenkins, Mary Dowling, Karen Fletcher, Scott Holmstrom, Pat Leavenworth, Chloe Mayer, Treasurer (ex officio), Brad Brookins, Pastor (ex officio).

The meeting was called to order by Jeff Jenkins at 6:10 PM.

Minutes of the January 10, 2017 Council meeting were approved on a motion by Jeff and a second by Mary.

**Treasurer's Report:** Chloe presented the report. She had questions regarding who gets paid a salary for January. Response was that both Chloe and Mary should get paid. Question on Mary Penninga's salary as the new Director of Christian Education (CE). She has requested biweekly pay. \$12,000 has been budgeted for the program which includes Mary's salary. Question as to whether Mary's annual tour of duty will be 10 or 12 months. Chloe will follow up with Mary.

Karen requested \$200 for a deposit on tents for the chicken barbecue. Approved on a motion by Mary and a second by Jeff.

**Election of Officers:**

Moderator: Karen Fletcher was elected on a motion by Jeff and a second by Mary.

Vice Moderator: Pat Leavenworth was elected on a motion by Jeff and a second by Mary.

Secretary: Mark Landmark was elected on a motion by Pat and a second by Jeff.

**Safe Church Policy Development:** Discussion on implementation of this policy. Example shared from Salem UCC. The Safe Church Committee would consist of the Pastor, Head of Christian Education, and a member of

the Council. The cost for background checks can range from \$10 to \$75 and comes out of the CE budget. Brad will check with other small churches for further information. Mary Dowling offered to help implement the policy.

**Youth Ministry Update:** Karen reported that at the Christian Education Committee meeting the previous evening, Julie McGregor and Justina Harvey agreed to be Co-Chairs. Judy Hale is Secretary.

**Stairway Exfoliation:** Alan Ferguson, Chair of the Maintenance Committee, reported that they are currently getting bids from contractors. Discussion on how the stairway will have to be brought up to code and what that might entail.

### **New Business:**

**Review of Constitution and Bylaws effort:** Discussion on the need to update these documents. Have the Congregation review them and ask questions. Need to set up a group to conduct the review with input from the Congregation. At the very least have documents ready for a vote at the Annual Meeting.

**Technology Committee:** This Committee hasn't functioned in about 10 years. Alan reported that this was discussed at the November Long Range Planning Committee. He said there was a recommendation to expand and enrich our presence in this medium. He reported that we've been having problems with our provider, Hosts" and the contract with them is up in March. Approval granted for Alan to put a committee together (Ben and Nick suggested). Discussion on some alternatives for example the National UCC arrangement. Alan recommended it be made a Standing Committee when we revise the bylaws. Mary moved and Pat seconded to form a Technology Committee.

**Contract for Mary Penninga:** Karen relayed that we need a contract. Brad will get examples and Chloe and Brad will set it up.

**Food Pantry:** Karen asked which food pantry have we been supporting. Chloe said she would research.

**Land:** Mary asked what the status is. We need a survey and Julie McGregor is working on that. We have funds set aside.

## **Action Register:**

Chloe: Ask Mary P. whether her position will be 10 or 12 months. Check on food pantry donation.

Christian Ed Committee: Determine how the balance left in budget after Mary's salary will be used for CE programming.

Council: Set up meeting for Safe Church Committee (Mary Dowling, Mary Penninga, Brad Brookins and Karen Fletcher). Brad will research what other small churches are doing. Set up first meeting for review of the Constitution and Bylaws (Jeff, Mark, Phil). Support Alan in setting up a Technology Committee.

Alan: recruit for Technology Committee members, monitor bid process for the stairway repairs.

7:30 PM Pat made motion to adjourn, Mary seconded.

Next meeting: March 14, 2017