

Council Meeting Minutes February 11, 2021

Present: Leslie Homer-Cattell, Stan Shantz, Cal Esh, Jonathan Sauder, Drew Brubaker, Ada Hallman, Carol Eby-Good, Marian Good, Pauline Zimmerman, Ken Nissley, Susan Gascho-Cooke

Absent: Audrey Patterson

Membership conversation with Stan Shantz, James Street

- Had attenders who couldn't serve on advisory committees, etc
- Based around the idea of bounded set vs centered set by Paul Hebert
- Decided to honor their history of being on the margins by removing some of the walls to belonging
- If people are active participants in the life of the church, they are members. There is no formalized member process. It allows them to welcome people in very quickly.
- Fluid boundaries are working very well at James St so far.
- How do you define participation?
 - One tangible way is the mailbox
 - Involved in the life of the church beyond worship
- Do you count/keep track?
 - Track Sunday morning attendance but haven't had a solid count. Could give an estimate with a little work.
- How do you decide who's in the directory?
 - Ask if they would like to be in the directory when they start attending regularly
 - Reach out to people who they haven't seen in a while to follow up and see if they still want to be in
- For advisory committees, they do gifts discernment with potential members. Do you feel a sense of call for this role?
- There is still formalized power/structure -- it isn't a differentiation between structured/unstructured.
- Congregation has given Oversight Board a decent bit of power to act but still has to go through congregation.
- What does recovenanting look like?
 - For example; Looks like the staff committing to anti-racism and including voices of people of color in sermons, songs, etc. Then an invitation was issued to congregation to commit to ways they would want to participate in that value.

1. Opening: Ada

2. Membership Vision

- Some discussion about Stan's presentation
- On the agenda again for next meeting.

3. Dismantling Racism Committee request

- Proposal for an anti-racist assessment by Drew Hart, and putting a copy "I'm Still Here" by Austin Channing Brown in everyone's hands
- Budget need is \$4,550 and there is no budget line for the committee. The committee proposes using leftover funds from the retreat line.

- Leftover retreat funds were previously voted (October 2020) to be sent to Camp Hebron for emergency housing, but that need never materialized.
 - Jonathan moved to approve the request from the Anti-Racism Committee. Carol seconded and all were in favor.
4. Approval of January minutes
 - Marian moved to approve, Jonathan seconded, all were in favor.
 5. Record email decisions (CMCL as vaccination site, gifts for Malinda, Sallie)
 - Reached email consensus on February 2, 2021 that CMCL could be used as a vaccination site
 - Reached email consensus on January 29, 2021 about gifts for departing staff.
 6. Staff Reports
 7. Financial Report
 8. Naming delegates, MCUSA, summer 2021
 - Move this to the March meeting
 9. Hess gift: how to utilize
 - Carol moved that we use this contribution for the Grant St/Accessibility process and memorialize the gift with a plaque. Pauline seconded. All were in favor.
 10. Project Update
 11. Progress Report: goals
 12. Next meeting: 7:00 March 11
 13. Farewell, Sallie
 14. Staff Relations Report
 15. Search Committee, C&Y
 16. Adjourn

Open Items

1. Rehanging the flags
2. Making CMCL welcoming and safe
3. Council representative to SRC in future
4. Congregational meeting convener
 - Moved to the March meeting