

CMCL church council minutes

May 9, 2022

by zoom

Opening: Michael

Present: Ken, Margaret, Carol, Marian, Drew, Mike
Absent: Cal (until 8:24pm), Pauline
Guests: Larry, Leslie, Susan

Opening: Mike read the Message version of 1 Corinthians 13 and encouraged us to let Love be our guide in all we do.

1. Approval of April Minutes - **ACTION:** Marian moves to approve, Drew seconds. All approve. Minutes accepted.
2. Staff Reports - Leslie highlights her sabbatical. Susan highlights Leslie's return from sabbatical and her post-Easter silent retreat. Working to make plans for her own sabbatical this fall.
3. Financial Report - from Larry. In February's report, we see offerings down 50k from the year prior. In March, 67k down.

March giving was low and some deposits were not attributed to March.

April improved quite a bit; now we are within 20k of last year's giving.

We are spending less than budgeted. (40k income over expenses.)

Ken asks about the security regarding storage of offerings. Could the deposits be made more often? Is the safe *safe* enough?

ACTION: Drew moves to approve the financial reports for March and April. Ken seconds. All in favor.

4. One Service Mask Optional for May (via email: unanimous)
5. Mask Protocol/Summer services - We'll be going down to one service, therefore it seems that the one service should be masked. But a COVID surge is more expected in the fall/winter, so the summer service could conceivably be relatively safe unmasked. Perhaps a group larger than 4 should be masked. Ken suggests that anyone singing up front unmasked could test prior to the service. We certainly have no way to predict when we can return to an entirely
ACTION: Drew moves that for the summer 1-service, we require masks for congregants, masks encouraged for those singing up front, with suggestion to test prior to the service if planning to be unmasked singing up front. Margaret seconds. All in favor.
Mike and Leslie will draft a message to the congregation and pass it on to council prior to sending it out. Along that vein, Susan mentions that Jazz Sunday (!) is next Sunday and will involve likely 5-6 unmasked musicians. Ken asks if we can ask them to test prior to coming to church. Susan will reach out to them.
5. Grant Street ("sub committee" to meet this week) - Chestnut Housing is now willing to meet with us since the build is actually happening. We will need to check with Cal about when that meeting is happening.
6. Budget (process) - see Leslie's report. The budget is on its way to Program Commission next week.
7. DRC request - They are trying to project what expenses will be for FY 2023. Considering doing a Summit in Lancaster to activate the community - envisioning a launch pad to get different groups together. They will request \$25,000 from CMCL for the summit (total \$28,000); the budget for the event is \$110,000. They are hoping to invite a nationally-known speaker to draw many others from outside the CMCL community. Planning for Spring 2023.

8. Assessment suggestion: structure (Drew Hart) - Council should be aware that down the road, there will likely be new things to consider regarding our mission, and how our structure may be hindering decision making, who has power, and how we relate to congregations of color.
9. MCUSA delegates - nothing new to discuss.
10. Next Meeting: 7:00 June 13
11. SRC Report - SRC is working on preparing for Susan's sabbatical. Coverage for pastoral care, speakers on Sunday mornings. They continue to update the employee handbook. Abby submitted her resignation last week. Her last day will be May 18. Marilou is starting June 1. She has lots of ideas.
12. Adjourn - **ACTION:** Drew moves to adjourn. Ken seconds. All approve. Adjourned at 8:25pm.

(Opening next time: Pauline)

Minutes: MKrumm