**CMCL Church Council Agenda 7:00, July 10, 2023 (Zoom)**

**Present -** Leslie Homer-Cattell, Hope Sholly, Marian Good, Carol Eby-Good, Larry Groff, Marlene Reiff, Laurel Martin, Cal Esh, David Stallings, John King, Margaret Krumm, Mike Sharp, Drew Brubaker

**Opening - Mike**

The paradox of servant leadership. Council members must serve through discernment and oversight. We all come from different backgrounds and have different gifts. But we have one clear commonality: caring about CMCL.

Qualities of a servant leader: Willingness to listen, empathy, care, awareness, foresight, and stewardship.

**1. Approval of June Minutes**

**Marian motions to approve the June 2023 Minutes. Marlene seconds. All in favor. ACTION: June 2023 minutes approved.**

**2. Financial Report - Larry**

Currently, the church offerings are at $410, 000. This is 86% of our planned budget, and we are currently 83% through the year. We are right on track and a little bit above previous years.

Rent income is strong this year with the IU-13’s class meeting in The Gathering Place. (However, the IU class will not be continuing here next year.)

All expenses are currently under the 83% mark of the year. However, there are several large upcoming expenses for facilities (about $18,000) within the next few weeks.

Currently we’re at $28,000 income over expense, with reserves for the next 4.8 months.

It would be helpful to have a copy of the most current financial report at the July Congregational meeting to provide context for the Grant St./Accessibility project.

**John motions to approve the June Financial Report. Laurel seconds. All in favor. ACTION: June Financial Report approved.**

The Finance Committee recommends the 2023-24 proposed budget based on a few assumptions:

1. The congregation will rise to the challenge, and the church will have an increased income. We must ask more explicitly for increased contributions.

2. Reparations will be decreased to 1% of the budget

3. Salary costs will decrease with the Children’s Ministry position having less hours.

This proposed budget has a deficit of $50,000. We plan to move forward in faith, all while keeping reality in mind. We can make adjustments to the budget along the way.

**3. Reparations - Carol**

DRC is expecting that the reparations fund will be included in the 23-24 budget (not just a non budget fund). Having the reparations fund on the budget shows that it is a priority.

Council met with DRC to discuss decreasing the reparations line from the original 3% of the budget to 1%. The goal is to eventually work our way up to 10% of the budget - with each year adding another 1% to the reparation fund.

DRC will continue to figure out the disbursement of the funds.

A clarification will be added to the reparations proposal: **Each year, the reparation budget line will have to be approved by the congregation.** This takes into consideration the aging congregation and fixed incomes.

The August congregational meeting will address reparations. Council & DRC will propose to create a budget line for reparations at 1%. Additionally, a non budget line will be added to allow any extra contributions.

**Drew motions to accept the amended reparations proposal to take to the August Congregational Meeting. Margaret seconds. 7 members in favor. 1 member opposed. ACTION: Amended reparations proposal to be presented at August Congregational Meeting.**

**4. Staff Reports**

Susan suggests that we continue with having one service in the Fall. There is a great energy when everyone is in fellowship together. However, space may be an issue. In the past, the sanctuary has been so full that people would turn away and go out to brunch instead. Additionally, introverts feel more comfortable in smaller groups.

Coffee shop hours for pastoral check-ins: Can we add more days of the week and more times?

We’d like to see Akron Mennonite Church develop a policy about using their building for memorial services. For now, CMCL should make using Akron’s facility an exception rather than the rule.

**5. Council members, Incoming (request to attend Monday)**

We have three new confirmed council members who have agreed to serve a three year term: David Stallings, Deb Van Pelt, and Beth Oberholtzer. Craig Clearwater is also considering joining CMCL and serving on Council.

**6. Next Meeting: 7:00 August 14 (Zoom)**

**7. EXECUTIVE SESSION - Staff Relations**

**8. Adjourn**

NOTES: Hope Sholly

**\*\*\*\*ADDENDUM: While the motion was not recorded in the notes, Council approved the budget recommended by Finance Committee for consideration and vote at the congregational meeting on 8/13.**

**(addendum approved at the September 18, 2023 meeting.)**