**Minutes of**

**Congregational Meeting**

**8/30/15**

1. Dennis opened the meeting with prayer.

2. He asked Susan to read the list of goals council’s subcommittee made up of Susan, Andrea Lommen, Adam Miller, elicited from the congregation when considering the budget. Susan asked people to contact committee or council with questions or feedback.

3. Susan added the two additional leadership selection appointments: Lamar Weaver – Council Chair; Linford Good help with Mennonite Men.

Julia thanked the Leadership Selection committee for their hard work.

4. Dennis asked for a vote regarding the leadership selection; the options were completely in agreement; not in agreement, but will support; not at all in agreement, opposed. The leadership selection slate was **unanimously approved.**

5. **Budget**:

Julia introduced the two items that were added back into budget: insulation and expansion of staff. After looking at the projected giving for the year, finance committee proposed to eliminate the money for church building insulation and money for an added part-time staff position. Council made a decision to reinstate these two line items, so that the decision would be made by the congregation in vote and giving.

Julia clarified that neither the insulation nor the staff expansion will happen unless the funds are raised for these. The insulation had been recommended several years ago by a creation care green energy audit, and the staff position has been considered because of structural work being completed by council and SRC.

Additional items that were added into the budget: insulation ($12,000); expanded staff ($34,000), $3,000 in healthcare costs for staff; $2,000 to cover anticipated staffing costs due to Chad’s sabbatical; $6,000 for replacement of Grant Street roof; total budget is now $532,200.

If every giving unit gave an additional $300 next year, on top of usual giving, we will have a balanced budget. The easiest way for council to know that this budget and expansion are being supported, is for giving units to contact the office and let the office know that you will be giving in an expanded fashion.

Discussion ensued regarding additional staffing needs. We have put money in the budget for the staffing needs we anticipate, based on restructuring. The amount budgeted is for full year, half-time—either administrative or youth pastor.

We are breaking even on the 2014-15 budget.

Julia assured everyone that council will share information regarding staff expansion at congregational meetings, and that people are invited to talk to council members, and staff relations also is involved in making staffing decisions.

6. Dennis asked the congregation to vote with the same criteria as above on leadership selection:

A. Yes – fully approve. Majority

B. Not particularly in favor, but won’t oppose. 3

C. Back to council for further work. 0

D. Opposition to budget. 0

**Unanimously voted A = fully approve.**