

# CMCL Church Council Minutes

## June 1, 2017

Present: Sarah Shirk, Sue Stoesz, Beth Oberholtzer, Cheryl Weber, Lamar Weaver, Larry Groff, Cynthia Stayrook, Susan Gascho-Cooke, John Thomas

Absent: Adam Miller, Amanda Stoltzfus, Malinda Clatterbuck, Katy Heinzl

- 1) Opening—Sue Stoesz: Sue read us a prayer about hope and nature.
- 2) Larry officially thanked Lamar Weaver for his past role as chair, and Larry took up the mantle of leadership of council.
- 3) Approval of May minutes—The May minutes were approved as written.
- 4) Pastor's Report—Susan Gascho-Cooke
  - a) Amanda is on maternity leave; Malinda will pick up some extra summer hours. During Convention in Florida, both Susan and Malinda will be away, so Katy Heinzl will fill in during that time.
  - b) By October, it will have been a year since Chad left and Susan is main pastor. Susan will talk with staff relations regarding possible additional hours.
  - c) Susan will be gathering together Program Commission (including pastoral team). Discussions will include having only one worship service next fall and winter. Possibly, we could have only one worship service until a second full-time pastor is hired.
- 5) Children & Youth Associate Pastor's Report, Amanda & Malinda—deferred.
- 6) Budget Reports—Income to date is \$20,000 behind income, but expenses are lower than expected. HVAC replacement/repair estimates will be sent to council in the future.
- 7) New Council Members
  - a) Beth Oberholtzer, John Thomas and Adam Miller are going off council at the end of the year. There was discussion regarding the number of council members needed.
  - b) There was discussion regarding possible council member nominees. Cheryl Weber will work with Leadership Selection committee to approach those nominees.
  - c) There was discussion on the number of council members needed. A minimum of 7 and a maximum of 9 was agreed upon.
- 8) Administrative Pastor Search Committee—
  - a) Katy Heinzl is willing to work on recruiting the administrative pastor search committee. There was discussion about possible nominees for being on the administrative pastor search committee.
  - b) Cynthia is willing to help pull together the administrative pastor search committee by contacting nominees.
  - c) There was discussion regarding whether the budget was approved as stands including the new administrative pastor's position, or whether the hiring of an administrative pastor is contingent on the income coming in.
- 9) Grant Street Proposal—The proposal is for low-cost housing, with a one apartment upstairs and one downstairs. There are skill sets within the congregation to do the upgrading. Kelvin

Mack has done a detailed proposal on the work needed. There was some discussion on whether to possibly make the housing Section 8.

- a) Council agreed to ask the committee to move forward to consolidate information on possible low cost housing. Lamar will pull together further information and send it to council and possibly meet with Cal Yoder (real estate agent) for further details. There may be possible grant money for low cost housing, and we could ask members of CMCL to give low-interest loans.

10) SEND Grants—

- a) There are 3 proposals:
  - i) Chestnut Housing Corporation (East Chestnut Street Mennonite Church—rehabbing the former Schenk’s Tavern) - \$2,000, proposed by Elaine Lapp Esh.
  - ii) Korean Peace Building Institute—upcycling and crafting center - \$1,800, proposed by Carol Spicher
  - iii) Path of Hope – Presbyterian Church – cultural hub - \$500, proposed by Daniel Erdman.
- b) Council agreed to support these 3 proposals.

11) Absentee Ballots—

- a) There was information of how James Street Mennonite church handles absentee balloting that Larry sent to council.
- b) A concern is that if absentee balloting were to be permitted, very few people would actually attend congregational meetings.
- c) There was discussion regarding the need for timing of the meeting that makes it possible for the most attendance, childcare to free up the teachers for the meeting, (Senior and Junior Youth could do childcare), etc.
- d) The general consensus was that absentee balloting is not appropriate at this time, but to keep it in mind on a case-by-case basis.

12) Other Business—

- a) Community Care Leaders—there was discussion regarding the possibility of small group committee working together with pastoral team on the concept of community care leaders. Beth is willing to talk to small group committee or pastoral team about putting this on their agenda.
- b) There was a concern that community care leaders concept might add to the burden of volunteer load.

13) Volunteer Questionnaire—Cheryl will check with Leadership Selection as to the timing of releasing the questionnaire again.

14) Thank you notes—Cheryl will be writing thank you notes to those people going off volunteer positions.

15) Volunteer for next Council meeting opening—John Thomas.

16) Adjournment

17) Next meeting—August 3, 2017