

**CMCL Council meeting**  
**Monday, February 13, 2023**  
**7:00 pm**

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

1. Laurel opened the meeting by reading the lyrics to “For Everyone Born, a Place at the Table” (alternate approved version) by Shirley Erena Murray.
2. Carol led the group in revisiting the racism/anti-racism assessment done for CMCL by Heather Cotignola-Pickens and Drew Hart. We are called to lament, repent, and try to make amends. How are we doing? The focus groups for this assessment were held in 2021 and the assessment results presented to the congregation in January 2022. Since then, the congregation’s learning and action steps have continued with the help of the Dismantling Racism Committee and the *Sankofa* series. We are called to be on a journey of transformation of ourselves and society. Upcoming congregational conversations about the proposed Reparations Action Fund are the next step. We will revisit this again in future meetings. What will be other ways that CMCL will continue this journey in the months and years to come?
3. Approval of January 2023 Minutes - John King motions to accept the minutes. Marian seconds. All in favor. **ACTION: January 2023 minutes approved.**
4. Larry gave treasurer’s report:  
Financial Report-  
Strong offerings - \$12,000 ahead of last year at this point  
Steady expenses - all areas within 30-40% range of budgeted expenses  
YTD - \$49,000 excess income over expenses (NOTE: giving typically stronger in first half of budget year)  
Stronger than last year - strong overall  
  
Non-budget account highlights-  
Lilly Endowment-will close after all sabbatical-related expenses are paid  
Mennonite Men & Mennonite Women-excess funds can carry over year-to-year  
Grant Street/Accessibility-will eventually close when projects completed  
Shawl fund- may propose closing this if not needed  
  
Parking - proposal from Facilities Committee to increase rental from \$90/quarter to \$120/quarter. Rate has not been increased for a number of years. John King moves to approve. Laurel seconds. All in favor. **ACTION: The increase of our parking space rate to \$120/quarter is approved.**

New non-budget line - proposal to create a separate non-budget line for mural funds that were previously added to Grant Street/Accessibility non-budget line. The idea is to more clearly delineate project costs. Drew Brubaker moves to approve. Margaret Krumm seconds. All in favor. **ACTION: Council approves the creation of a new non-budget line for the mural.**

5. Staff Reports were sent out this afternoon with an addendum from Susan which was received by all. No questions.
6. Proposal to set up a Reparations Action Fund:  
Three congregational conversations - to be held in the sanctuary. Planning an hour total:
  - Time for presentations to address three areas of question raised in the survey:
    - DRC - how disbursement committee will be formed and function
    - Finance Committee - how much CMCL can afford for a reparations fund + how CMCL might pay for it
  - Time for clarifying questions
  - Time for conversation among those who participate

Council members can be at each of the three meetings to listen and take notes:

2/26 @ 12.30 p.m. (after second service): Carol, Cal, Marlene, Laurel, Marian

3/4 @ 6:00 p.m. (after senior youth chili dinner fundraiser): Carol, Laurel, Mike

3/19 @ 10 a.m. (during ACE): John, Margaret, Marlene

Cal will contact Gerald Rissler to help plan and/or facilitate the meetings.

Childcare to be provided - Leslie will reach out to the Shalom Project to ask them.

Small groups (both traditional and also affinity groups) - invite as many groups as possible to discuss the proposal and then respond to the survey as a group. Goal is to broaden participation in this conversation/decision across the congregation.

Leslie will contact Brenda Sauder (chair of Small Group Committee) to share this idea and see if Brenda would be willing to email all small groups with this invitation to participate. Hopefully, DRC and Finance Committee could prepare and share handouts so the small groups would also have helpful background information.

7. Congregational meeting planned for March 5th
  - Financial Report
  - Giving Tutorial
  - Green Cemetery
  - Leadership Selection Committee update (new leadership slate from Henry Biedrzycki)
  - Grant Street/Accessibility updates (Linford Good, Lynn Bergey, Dave Lutz)
  - Proposal for CMCL to join POWER Interfaith (Marty)

Cal will send a congregational meeting announcement to council members and Hope to put in this week's email announcements.

8. 2020-2025 Goals Report: Program Commission sent an update to Council regarding ways CMCL has been living into our current goals. Need to set action steps for 2023. Agreed to revisit this with the Program Commission mid-year - with the goal of developing new action steps to present to the congregation along with the 2023-2024 budget. By then, it will be good to be able to celebrate that the Grant Street Project (a first year - and second year - action) is completed.

Ideas for new actions in 2023 and beyond:

- Dismantling racism
  - Joining Chestnut Housing's goal to create 100 affordable housing units
  - Reparations Action Fund, if approved
9. Staff Relations Committee report
    - Office Coordinator:
      - Hope's first week on the job began 2/6/23
      - Job description change being proposed - SRC wants to move payroll responsibilities from the Office Coordinator to the Treasurer and a representative from SRC representative Marian motions that we make the change. Marlene seconds. All in favor.  
**ACTION: Payroll responsibilities will now be handled by the Treasurer and a representative from Staff Relations Committee.**
    - SRC is asking staff to do a time study of hours worked over next three months
  10. Next meeting: March 13th 7:00 p.m.
  11. Marian motions we adjourn the meeting. Marlene seconds. All in favor. **ACTION: Meeting adjourned.**

Minutes by Hope Sholly; reviewed with minor revisions by Leslie Homer-Cattell and Cal Esh.