

First United Church of Arvada  
Minutes of the Council of Directors Meeting – Draft 3  
7:00 p.m. September 10, 2014

Present: Tom Garrison, Moderator; Karin Kilpatric, Pastor; Jean Bareis, Director of Ministries, Bob Bunting, Accountant; Jeri Lou Maus, Clerk; Maralee Nobis-Jacobsen; Bob Abercrombie; Ralph Datema; Jeannie Garrison; Mike Maus, Jan Satriano. **Guests:** Kristine Hall, Strategic Planning Group, Patsy Pfaff, Kevin Volzke.

Moderator Tom Garrison called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Ralph offered opening prayer.

Mike Maus moved to approve the minutes, as amended, of the August 13, 2014, meeting. Motion seconded and passed.

Financials Reports:

Bob Bunting, Accountant. We have \$2,204.39 in overage income, as of end of August. Expenses are to the good by \$3,713.23 (Operating Fund and Minister's Expenses account for \$3,500). Maralee reported that Operating Budget is at 95% of budget target and Major Maintenance is at 97%.

Restricted Funds Report: Maralee moved that Gloria Knutson be allowed to purchase several bass bells, including shipping & handling, for up to \$3,205.00. Seconded and passed.

Bob Bunting said that 2 parties have expressed interest in our vacant land. He feels we need to get an appraisal on the entire property, including the building, for not more than \$500, from Major Maintenance Fund. Mike moved the motion, seconded, and passed. Tom stated that we are in the exploratory stage, gathering info, and a bigger issue will be what we do with the money, if property sells.

FOC – Maralee reported that quarterly donations to ARMS are being made.

Events: Jeannie said that on Sept. 21, the shoe donations will be used in a labyrinth after worship. It is also Native American Sunday, so flute and drum music will be used.

Sept. 28. Neighbors in Need Special Offering will be Sept. 28, Ralph reported.

Jeannie suggested that in 2015 we combine the food drive with a labyrinth, using canned goods as the labyrinth. The idea was warmly received. Worship and Arts Board will work with Missions & Outreach on the project.

Oct. 18 - Interfaith Social Justice Workshop, 9-3 at our church.

Board Report:

Stewardship Campaign: Oct. 19 – Nov. 9. Theme: "Blessed to be a Blessing." Maralee

encouraged Council members to look at their budgets and try to increase their pledges by 1%.

1. Review of Fishers By-law Responsibilities, as per the Sp. Cong. Meeting ((Handout 1) Maralee questioned whether Council could vote, without a CE rep present. Yes, only a quorum is necessary. Mike moved in favor of the changes. Seconded and passed.
2. Changes in the Endowment Fund wording in the By-laws. (Attached purple ink for name change to Fund Trustees and blue ink for other additions) This document was tabled, as other changes need to be made. Ralph and Tom are to double-check it carefully, and bring back to Council in October. (Handout 2)
3. Survey Results for Discussion by Council (Handout 3) Tom summarized the four Discussion Items: Is there another way to do this? Should we try to combine Fishers and Fellowship? Bob suggested combining, but Jan wants entire Fellowship Board to discuss. Jeannie feels people are feeling burn-out. Maralee and Karin suggest we look at other UCC churches of similar size, and their governance.

Ralph suggested to the Council to look at the 4 areas on hand out #3 and what is listed under each. Ralph thinks rather than problem solving the 4 areas, that create some tensions, we should take a month to meditate on them first, then think about the next steps. When we work creatively with tensions, then changes happen. Kristine added that we still need to go back and re-read the whole survey. We may find some things were over-looked. It was agreed that the Council reps review these items for further discussion.

#### New Business:

1. Donation of Silver Tea Set by Temmers – Tom started discussion. Is it Sterling? Not sure. Realistically, it will not see much use. Jeri Lou moved TO THANK THE TEMMERS, BUT THAT THEY SHOULD SELL IT. SECONDED, PASSED.
2. Tax Exempt Policy related to politics on Social Media Use. Tom said that we need to be very careful on what is said on any of our social media. (e.g. newsletter, web site, etc.)
3. Financial Oversight Committee Policy Change. Tom stated that this is Maralee's last year as Stewardship. Chair. So the Council needs to think about this loss of her position within the on FOC. The policy change is looking at adding an at-large member to FOC. Maralee asked, "What is the best for the church?" She suggests thinking about it & decide at Oct. meeting. (See Handout 4 excerpt from Financial Policy.)

Maralee asked do we have a Treasure yet. No

Karin mentioned she went to the Trustees meeting, and they want Bill Martin to continue as Treasurer until a replacement is found. He has agreed.

4. Fishers Board Proposal related to the Church Web Site: (Handout 5) Bob Abercrombie passed out a document relating to FUCA's web site. He read it. Bob moved that five hours a month be taken away from Margie, and use the monies to hire someone (perhaps an Iliff student) to keep the web-site schedule up to date. Discussion centered on what is most important – the web site gets people in the door, but is it what we offer that keeps folks returning? Karin stated that she and Margie have talked about the proposal. Karin is concerned with taking time and money away from the secretary who has a full plate now. Margie has been learning how to update the website. Byron found 19 deficiencies in the web site last week. Kristine Hall and Mike agreed to meet with Margie soon and talk with her about her job and the web site. Any changes in her job description and salary has to go through the Trustees and be approved by Council. MARALEE MOVED TO TABLE BOB'S MOTION. SECONDED. PASSED, WITH ONE OPPOSED.

At the end of Bob's Proposal he offered a new change to the by-laws (HANDOUT 6) Tom said no additional by-law changes could be introduced at this time. Any new by-law changes will have to wait until next year's Council.

Minister's Report: Karin reported there were 98 people in worship last Sunday, as it was Back to Church Sunday & Grandparents Sunday. Suzanne Volkze and Sue Wedaa worked together to plan the youth portion, and 12 youth participated.

The Painter-Wakefields and Teresa Felker currently are planning to become new members on September 21.

Karin will be on vacation: Oct. 10-15. Currently, Jean is away.

Mike moved to close with prayer, seconded. passed

Prayer by Bill Martin at 10:00 pm

Next Meeting: October Wednesday, October 8, 2014, 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Jeri Lou Maus, Clerk

Attachments:

1. Fishers Bylaw Responsibilities
2. Endowment Fund Bylaw changes
3. Survey Results for Discussion by Council
4. Policy Change for F.O.C.
5. Fishers' Board Proposal related to Church Web Site
6. Fishers' Board Proposal for Bylaw Revisions