
Leanna called the meeting to order at 7:03. She mentioned all the projects that are on-going right now, and expressed sorrow for the loss of Janet Winkler. Pastor Elizabeth led us in prayer, thanking God for the many people in this Church working to fulfill its mission. She also gave thanks for the life of Janet Winkler.

It was moved, seconded and so voted to approve the Church Council Minutes of June 8, 2022 as printed.

Leanna asked Cathy for comments on the Treasurer’s report. Cathy said she had to borrow from Special Funds to cover all the expenses because they were short on cash in June. Leanna asked about the money for the Youth Service trip and asked about the actual expense for the trip. Cathy did not have final number. There was a discussion about Church maintenance. Ian replied that some of the maintenance items will be paid out of invested funds. Janet said she could not hear the discussion. Elizabeth worked on the technical issue and it was resolved. It was moved, seconded and so voted to approve the Treasurer’s report as presented.

Elizabeth presented the only staff report. It was a slower month but didn’t feel that way with Andy gone. She announced that the Child Care Exploratory Workgroup is now the Interim Board of Directors for the new Childcare Center. She also announced that Erica Gardner has set up a committee to assess all the technology we use in the Church. Some groups are using google drive and some drop box. Everyone should be using the same platform—it will help streamline things. Erica, Judy, and Elizabeth are on the committee. Michael Roy was asked but does not have time to work on it full time. Pastoral care is ongoing. A lot of people are sick, so that is keeping her busy. There is not going to be a memorial service this summer for Janet Winkler. She and Andy spent some time planning for the fall before he left. She is spending time working on these things. She is staying busy since she is the only Pastor this month.

Board Reports:

Michele reported for Deacons. The work of the Deacons is the same in the summer as the rest of the year. There is nothing new happening right now. They are still discussing the use of masks.
Gail reported for Membership. They have a visitors table and have had a couple visitors chat, but no one wanted to sign up. They have started work on Welcome Sunday and will be starting the pot luck dinners on the second Sunday in October. “Room at the Table” will be the name of the event. They will be doing them until January. The pot-luck dinner will start at 11:30, and will replace coffee hour.

Margaret reported for Pastoral care. They have been visiting with people and sending out cards. They can’t do services at Helen Porter yet, but can go in and visit people.

Ian reported for Trustees. He started by saying the columbarium foundation is going in. There was a discussion of the original garden which was designed before the columbarium was added to that space. The actual columbarium should be arriving very soon. The racking for the solar panels is being installed. The panels should be arriving on Friday. The Trustees will be defining items that will be coming out of the Church’s permanent funds. There was a good discussion about the roof, and how to proceed with this renovation. Ian was asked about communication between the different contractors. He said it is fine. Elizabeth asked about the time-line for these projects. There was a short discussion of the removal of a portion of the sidewalk.

Bronwen reported for Missions. This is her last meeting. Wendy Warren will be taking her place at our Council Meetings. Clothing vouchers will start in August. They will co-ordinate the Crop Walk. They still have about ⅔ of their budget to allocate this fall. There was discussion of her staying on the Board or leaving. Janet suggested we look for a volunteer from the congregation for the CROP walk and/or the Food Drive. Council expressed its thanks Bronwen for her good work.

Judy reported for Christian Education. They had a good discussion about the Child Care Center. There are concerns about how Church School classes will use the same spaces and how it will work. Nursery coverage for next year is being worked on, as well as where it will be located. Welcome Sunday is starting to be planned and Judy asked if the Franklins would have it at their home on Cider Mill Road. Janet said they can use their place even though they will be away.

New Business: Mal gave an update on the archival project. He plans to sort things in piles, and have people read them and further sort them out. Some things are going to be difficult to read—should we save them? He wants to use the balcony to sort the piles of documents. He doesn’t think it will interfere with other uses. They have a huge box of tapes and a lot of old slides. If we convert some of these things to something more permanent, what do we convert them to? SOME OF THE THESE THINGS ARE REALLY INTERESTING. He does not need any money right now. Michele offered the name of someone in Burlington who does this at a very reasonable cost.

Elizabeth started the update on Childcare Work Group. They are now in a different phase. They are working on the many details for opening the child care center. It is like starting over. They are working on the building, the governance, and hiring a director. Mark Gleason is working on getting the things done that are needed for the building. John McCloud is working with Mark on this. They will be meeting with Steve Smith tomorrow. Contractors are hard to come by but they
are looking hard to find someone who can do it in a timely manner. Work has to look good and fit in with the building. They are working to be sure the rooms can be converted for different age groups to be able to use them. They are considering converting the current nursery into the youth room. The current nursery needs to be upgraded, and we will have new nursery space. The old nursery is a smaller room than the youth room, but maybe could work well. Margaret asked if the showers in the bathrooms are being used and if one of them could be used for the washer and dryer. They are thinking about the space where the old elevator is for the washer and dryer. There is also space behind the old elevator that could be used for storage.

Ellen reported on the other 2 major areas. In dealing with governance, they are working on how to structure the Board of Directors. What number of members should be from the Church and from the community? They are talking about how to communicate with all the groups in the Church. They are starting to sketch out the operating agreement with the Church. They need to know the timeline for construction before they start hiring people. Ellen also reported that they are continuing to apply for grants. Cerf Fund and Let’s Grow Kids are the 2 groups they have applied to for grants. They hope to know about these in the next few weeks. There could be as much as $90,000 from these grants. Ellen will be meeting with Bill Miller about becoming a 501 (c) 3 corporation. She will also be working on a lease agreement, as well as other legal items.

Ian reported further on the use of Special Funds for Painting the Church. The west wall of Church, which is being done this year, is the largest and most expensive. It will use all the funds from the painting line in special funds. Leanna asked if emptying funds has happened in the past. The answer was yes, it has, and then we start adding to them again. $28,000 is the approximate cost of just the west wall. It will empty the special fund and will need to take the rest of the money from another place. It was moved, seconded and so voted to take the entire amount of money in the Church Painting Fund which is part of the Church’s Special Funds to pay for the current painting of the west side of the Church. It was further moved, seconded, and so voted to pay approximately $28,000 to cover the cost of painting the west side of the Church. Ian reported that “Painting with Purpose” is the name of the company doing the painting, and that he will need a check for $14,250 on Monday.

Mal noted that Janet Winkler was a person who did a fabulous job with anything she took on, and that she will be missed.

It was moved, seconded, and so voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:35.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Foster

Clerk