

First Congregational Church United Church of Christ (FCCUCC) of Colorado Springs
Minutes of the Council Meeting

October 11, 2018, Gregg Library

Council Members in Attendance:

Connie Brachtenbach (Moderator)
Lee Lehmkuhl (Vice Moderator)
Lisa Mason (Secretary)
Adam Gibbs (Worship & Spiritual Life)
Wayne Bland (Outreach)
Lynne Stefoni (Care and Fellowship)
Gloria Latimer (Education)

Council Members Absent:

Julia Nace (Treasurer)

Ex Officio in Attendance:

Rev. Heather Haginduff
(Lead Minister)

Ruth Roland

(Director of Financial Ministry)

Rev. Jacque Franklin

(Minister of Pastoral Care)

Ex Officio Absent:

None.

Guests:

Rich Law to introduce the Non-Violent Communication curriculum

Dinner, Grace and Devotional was provided thanks to Connie Brachtenbach.

Meeting called to order-6:21pm

SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

It was moved by Adam and seconded by Gloria that Council accept the September 2018 minutes as written. The motion was approved unanimously by Council via voice vote.

CORE RESOURCE AREAS:

Connie appreciated the heart that Adam puts into his Worship & Spiritual Life reports.

OUTREACH (WAYNE BLAND):

- Wayne moved to nominate Pauli Hubbard to replace Sky Foerster as MG&O committee chair. Lee seconded the motion.
- Sky leaves that position in January 2019.
- The following discussion from Council noted Pauli is a diligent worker and her rise to leadership will leave a large gap in the MG&O worker ranks.
 - o Pastor Heather pointed out this is a good topic for the LCC (Leadership Cultivation Committee) to talk to ALL teams about leadership skill sets.
 - o Additionally we, at FCC, need to facilitate the entry points for more congregational members to step into leadership roles.
- The motion was approved unanimously by Council via voice vote.
- Lynne asked about the status of the organization, Blackbird.

- There has been a lack of engagement from their board, and burnout from key figures in the organization.
- Blackbird is now 'on hold' until a new board can be created.
- This would hopefully transform Blackbird.
- Through this year, MG&O has regularly granted funds to support Blackbird; since it is currently a non-functioning entity, Ruth is holding a check originally intended to help support Blackbird.

FINANCIAL MINISTRIES (RUTH ROLAND):

- Ruth - Cash flow projections show a significant shortfall due to high operating costs not balanced by sufficient income.
- Wayne - appreciates Ruth's documentation break down.
- Executive Team will address this issue later this month.
- Ruth's Outreach efforts (to increase income/pledging) has yielded 9 visits totaling \$50,000 pledged against the \$65,000 of needed income.
- Ruth was lauded for her skill and efforts on these Outreach conversations.

MODERATOR (CONNIE BRACHTENBACH):

- Annual Meeting is January 27, 2019.
 - During the November Council meeting, Council will focus on the progress made toward nominating/installing new officers.
 - We will start summarizing 2018 topics which include the above budget concerns.
 - Budget concerns will be more thoroughly covered in late February-early March.
 - Council members should review 2018 reflections for Annual Meeting presentations.
 - Historical Sunday (Oct 21) will kick off *150 Gifts for 150 Years* anniversary celebration, and will include a dedication of the South Balcony.
 - Ruth presented the Bequest Campaign information; Council should consider participating in this campaign.

LEAD MINISTER (HEATHER HAGINDUFF):

- Pastor Heather continues to examine Just Peace.
- It'd be good to have a core group of 20-30 people to really engage in the Non-Violent Communication (NVC) curriculum; this would help to change the culture of the church.
- Leadership Retreat for new leaders is scheduled for February 23.
- Council/Staff Retreat is scheduled for April 27 - significant coverage of the NVC curriculum.
- The By-Laws Update Committee meets next week. Their job is to only update (not rewrite) any Bylaws, especially regarding any language errors, any extinct committees or other outdated notations.

- Rich Law presented Non-Violent Communication.
 - o This is a curriculum designed to develop deep listening skills and peaceful caring means of listening that honors the other.
 - o The Just Peace designation, some say it lacks an edge, an advocacy.
 - o NVC, Pastor Heather believes, can be a major tool for the advocacy function for Just Peace.

MEETING EVALUATION

- It was expressed that this group feels like it's a safe place to be, and there was a feeling of gratitude for that.
- The content covered tonight was very valuable.
- There were thanks to Council for the work we do.
- There was appreciation for Rich's time and his gift of presenting this curriculum to us.

ADJOURNED at 8:35 pm

Closing prayer by Gloria Latimer

Respectfully submitted by
Lisa A Mason, Council Secretary


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 1/31/2017
Connie Brachtenbach, Council Moderator

