

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

February 14, 2019, Gregg Library

Council Members in Attendance:

Connie Brachtenbach (Moderator)
Paul McNeill (Vice Moderator)
Lisa Mason (Secretary)
Adam Gibbs (Worship & Spiritual Life)
Polly Strovink (Treasurer)
Lynne Stefanik (Care & Fellowship)
Aaron Brown (Education)
Wayne Bland (Outreach)

Ex Officio in Attendance:

Rev. Heather Haginduff
(Lead Minister)
Ruth Roland
(Director of Financial Ministry)
Rev. Jacque Franklin
(Minister of Pastoral Care)

Council Members Absent: None

Ex Officio Absent: None

Guests: Lee Lehmkuhl - outgoing Vice-Moderator, Julia Nace - outgoing Council Treasurer, David Acton - Organist and Office Administrator

Introduction of Guests- see above

Dinner and Devotional thanks to outgoing Council Members Lee Lehmkuhl, Julia Nace, and Gloria Latimer, outgoing Council member for Education

Meeting called to order: 5:15 pm

Connie elaborated on what the informational meeting on February 17 will cover. Connie explained that each Council member should be ready to say what the budget process has been like, sharing what we each learned and where we found God in the process.

Connie also reviewed the schedule/format for the Special Meeting scheduled for February 24. Council debated whether to propose creating a task force to address potential financial concerns in anticipation of a potential \$60-80,000 shortfall for the 2020 budget. Council decided to continue to look at this issue based on whatever information the Congregation shares during the informational meeting.

JANUARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: It was moved by Wayne and seconded by Aaron that Council accept the January 2019 minutes with corrections submitted by Polly. The motion was approved via voice vote.

CORE RESOURCE AREA AND MINISTRY AREA REPORTS:

EDUCATION:

Aaron shared that Rob Lund has taken over the Children's Ministry Team.

MINISTER OF PASTORAL CARE:

Jacque brought up that FCC/Council members could attend the neighborhood meetings regarding the proposed hockey arena for Colorado College to be built on their campus. Parking is a huge concern for the surrounding neighborhood. Paul volunteered to attend and report back.

TREASURER:

Polly reviewed Annual Appeal information and our current budget position. The Financial Advisory Committee (FAC) had previously received the same information. After reviewing this information, the FAC had three recommendations:

- 1) Each Council member to review with each of their respective areas if the expenses for their area were really critical and if not could they be deferred until 2020.
- 2) If a task force is created, to please consider returning the Annual Appeal time schedule to the Fall. Ruth absolutely doesn't want the Annual Appeal returned to the Fall and Polly said this is a hill she is willing to die on.
- 3) Change the timing of when the budget is presented to the Congregation (presumably a later Congregational Meeting than the traditional January Annual Meeting) for approval. Council then discussed the budget as presented above.

MOTION: Polly moved that this be the budget for 2019 that will be submitted to the Congregation for approval at the Special Meeting on February 24. Lynne seconded the motion. The motion was approved via voice-vote.

Connie requested that Council go into Executive Session. Council provided a unanimous hand vote in favor and guests exited.

EVALUATION:

Polly felt out of the loop regarding e-mailing reports for Council meetings. Lisa thanked Aaron for being willing to speak up in opposition, on one topic, to what most of Council was expressing despite being new to the Council. Polly was concerned that in expressing her opinions that she may have been viewed as diminishing the Council's previous work.

ADJOURNED: 7:40 pm

PRAYER: Pastor Heather

Respectfully submitted by
Lisa A Mason, Council Secretary