

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (FCUCC)
OF COLORADO SPRINGS
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING**

April 11, 2017, Gregg Library

Council Members in Attendance:

Connie Brachtenbach (Moderator)
Scott Tetrick (Vice Moderator)
Lisa Mason (Secretary)
Mike Gemm (Treasurer)
Chris Reimer (Worship & Spiritual Life)
John Beavers (Education)
Lynne Stefonik (Care and Fellowship)
Alyce Morgan (Outreach)

Rev. Nayiri Karjian
(Interim Lead Minister)
Rev. Jacque Franklin
(Minister of Pastoral Care)
Ruth Roland
(Director of Financial Ministries)

Ex Officio Absent: None

Council Members Absent: None

Guests:
Jill Robinson – Co-Chair Search
Committee

Ex Officio in attendance:

Dinner and Devotional thanks to Mike

Meeting called to order - 6:29 pm

SEARCH COMMITTEE - JILL ROBINSON:

The Search Committee is currently reviewing candidate profiles that were submitted before our church profile was posted. They are having those candidates revisit their profiles within the context of the church profile. They are also developing interview questions for the next phase of interviews and the expectation is that there will be more profiles that come in after Easter.

MARCH MINUTES - [Approved by consensus.](#)

Education:

John- stated we are invited to dinner at Jim and Patty White's house on May 13 at 6 pm with guest lecturer Peter Rollins as a preview to the JWW Lecture series. Extra help is still need with ushering during the Lecture series. Contact Blake Pelton or Gloria Latimer to help.

Chris wanted to verbally reinforce the information found in Scott's facility report that we have IT problems that need to be solved especially regarding the computer network, and discussing contracts for security cameras.

SECRETARY:

Lisa sent out, via e-mail, the Risk Reduction Team's updated protocols. She requested all Council members review those documents and approve them via e-mail at which time Emily Bond will post them as the current protocols.

INTERIM LEAD MINISTER:

Nayiri - June 8-11 Cheyenne, WY is the location for the next Rocky Mountain Conference Annual Celebration (RoMoCo). Lisa volunteered to go as a delegate. Jacque is going as an ordained representative/clergy. Logan Bennett, seminary graduate, wants to go. We can send two lay delegates. Consensual agreement to have Logan attend/Tiffany Schmid is still working on the logo for this next year's theme. Nayiri is inviting Arshad Yousufi to preach the last Sunday in April for some interfaith enrichment.

Anya Powers (FCC Member) has a calling for Air Force chaplaincy. She met with the Discernment Team. She is currently working a contract position in Asheville, NC. She will go to Yale School of Divinity and then serve in the Reserves and then will be an active Duty Chaplain. After hearing her story, we requested the Southeast Association of the RoMoCo receive Ms. Powers as Member in Discernment and grant her that status.

Chris made a motion for the above request and John seconded it. Approved by voice vote.

Break: 7:45- 7:50

TREASURER:

Mike - The budget looks good - income is going great. The recent matching gift opportunity created approximately \$55.5k which is \$15k over the goal. Regarding a line item in the budget, Chris asked about what the function of the flower balance is. Ruth answered it does buy flowers but it also covers other items to decorate the Sanctuary.

INTERIM LEAD MINISTER:

Nayiri - regarding the Staff/Council Retreat, she suggests we cover 4 specific things:

- (1) we should review the strategic plan
- (2) we should identify themes for the year
- (3) we should evaluate our ministries
- (4) we should decide if there are other priorities to be tackled during the interim period- for example, fine tuning the governance structure, discernment committee issues, Just Peace's position, etc.

The retreat will be in the Founder's Room on Saturday, May 20 at 9 am. At 8:30 will be gathering time and a continental breakfast. The retreat goes until 2 pm with a lunch built in (Alyce said she will handle foods). Scott suggested we discuss what the "front porch" area of the church should look like and what "building things" we need to

vision. Mike says we have the capacity to “do things” in the range of several hundred thousands of dollars for fund raising thanks to discussions with a couple congregants.

OUTREACH:

Alyce - IHN is starting next week and goes through Easter.

ASSORTED ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chris mentioned David Acton, organist, is looking for an apartment in May while he is shopping for a permanent residence. Nayiri is guest speaking on Good Friday at First Presbyterian during the Ecumenical Service.

Mike- reported there were lots of young families present during Munchkin’s Palm Sunday parade and also in the Young Families group there were lots of new attendees.

CARE AND FELLOWSHIP:

Lynne - reported that the first session of “Who Stole My Church” was good and they will present two more sessions.

MEETING EVALUATION:

John said he enjoys the spirit of these meetings.

Adjournment: by consensus at 8:39 pm

Respectfully submitted- Lisa A Mason, Secretary

Lisa A Mason, Council Secretary

Connie Brachtenbach, Council Moderator
