

First Congregational United Church of Christ (FCUCC) of Colorado Springs
Final¹ Minutes of the Council Meeting

November 9, 2017, Gregg Library

Council Members in Attendance:

Connie Brachtenbach (*Moderator*)
Scott Tetrick (*Vice Moderator*)
Lisa Mason (*Secretary*)
John Beavers (*Education*)
Chris Reimer (*Worship & Spiritual Life*)
Lynne Stefoniak (*Care & Fellowship*)
Mike Gemm (*Treasurer*)

Council Members Absent:

Alyce Morgan (*Outreach*)

Ex Officio in attendance:

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

Ex Officio Absent:

None

Guests: None

Grace, dinner and devotional thanks to John Beavers.

Meeting called to order - 6:15 pm

Scott shared plans that are underway to celebrate and honor Pastor Nayiri's Interim Ministry with FCUCC. This celebration is scheduled to take place on Dec 10, followed by a "Welcome" celebration on January 7, 2018, for our new Lead Minister, Pastor Heather Haginduff. The members of the Search Committee will be temporarily acting in the capacity of the Clergy-Congregation Relations Committee for Pastor Heather. Pastor Nayiri reported that the previously planned November Leadership Gathering with Council, Staff, LCC and chairs of committees has been cancelled due to holiday scheduling restrictions, as well as travel plans associated with Pastor Nayiri's next call. Pastor Nayiri also reported on Staff progress and gave her recommendations for future trainings that might be conducted sometime during Pastor Heather's transition into our church.

OCTOBER MINUTES:

[Motion to approve the Minutes.](#)

[Approved by consensus after corrections to misspellings of names.](#)

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION:

[Minutes approved by consensus.](#)

¹ This version of minutes of this Meeting contain revisions made with the consent of the Council Members who attended the meeting with the intent that this version replaces *nunc pro tunc* all prior versions of such minutes with like effect as if fully authorized and approved by all necessary action of the Council in the first instance.

VICE MODERATOR:

Scott reported on the ongoing exploration into renting and/or acquiring the building on the NW corner of our block. He also reported on the Safety Task Force and the prioritized list of needs for this initiative. Council discussed the possibility of adding facility/property management duties into the Sanctuary Keeper job description. Without these duties, the existing Sanctuary Keeper job would include Sunday duties only, equating to approximately 20 hrs./month.

LCC COMMITTEE:

Lisa brought a question from LCC to Council, which is to consider/challenge how various committee members, especially committee chair positions are filled. Council chose to table this discussion and consider this topic in greater detail after the arrival of Pastor Heather.

OUTREACH:

Alyce stated that ESM is asking for money for *Wish House*, which is focused on addressing women's housing issue. IHN is going well.

FINANCIAL MINISTRIES:

Mike reviewed October financials and stated that we are falling short on 2018 pledges at about the same rate as we were last year. However, the 2017 balance sheet is healthier than the prior year. Mike and Ruth will work together to drive more engagement with the young families attending church, as a specific subset that we haven't heard as much from yet, in terms of giving, for 2018.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL MINISTRIES:

Ruth stated that we are still waiting to hear from people/families who are recurring givers and she continues to hope for an influx of new givers, especially young adults/families. Ruth also stated that she would be looking for help from Council members in efforts to complete the final "push" for 2018 pledging. Ruth will mail a follow-up and plans to start phone calls and emails, as needed, following Thanksgiving.

INTERIM LEAD MINISTER:

Pastor Nayiri will be at a Candidate Weekend for her next call, which will require she be out of town November 15-18 and December 9. Mallory Everhart is organizing the Advent Contemplative Services and will also preach on Nov 19. Jason Hays, who is doing team-building/facilitation work with Staff, will complete his final session with Staff at the end of November.

MODERATOR:

Connie shared with Council that Jason Hays will be providing an Executive Summary, including an assessment of needs and his thoughts/suggestions regarding how he might assist with future facilitation needs with Staff as we move into a new season of

ministry with the Rev Heather Haginduff. Connie suggested that Council and Staff consider inviting Nancy Henjum to share the current governance model of our Church at our February Leadership Retreat. Finally, the agenda for the Annual Meeting, scheduled for Jan 28, 2018, was discussed at a very high level. More details to come at the December Council meeting.

MEETING EVALUATION:

Covered a lot. Lots to be done between now and then. The genuine discussion regarding areas of difficulty helped.

Adjournment at 8:09 PM.

Approved by consensus

Respectfully submitted

- Lisa A Mason, Secretary



Lisa A Mason, Council Secretary



Connie Brachtenbach, Council Moderator