

**First Congregational United Church of Christ (FCUCC) of Colorado Springs**  
**Final<sup>1</sup> Minutes of the Council Meeting**  
**October 12, 2017, Gregg Library**

**Council Members in Attendance:**

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

**Council Members Absent:**

None

**Guests:**

Jan Johnson-Search Committee

Grace, dinner and devotional thanks to Connie Brachtenbach.

**Meeting called to order - 6:15 pm**

**SEARCH COMMITTEE:**

Jan Johnson and Connie Brachtenbach shared the details of the agenda/schedule for Rev. Heather Haginduff's *Candidate Weekend*, which will take place Friday, October 13 - Sunday, October 15, 2018. The composition of who might serve on the Transition Team and the Clergy-Congregation Relations Committee was also discussed.

**SEPTEMBER MINUTES**

Motion to approve the Minutes from the September meeting. [Approved by consensus.](#)

**OUTREACH:**

Alyce Morgan moved and John Beavers seconded to appoint Clay Taylor as a member of MG &O. Approved via voice vote. Alyce moved to appoint Sky Foerster as committee chair for MG&O, which was seconded by John. [Approved by voice vote.](#)

**LCC COMMITTEE:**

Lisa updated the Council about the status of possible Council nominations for the open Outreach, as well as Worship and Spiritual Life representatives. Lisa also stated that she would be willing to remain on Council, as Secretary, for a second term.

**DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL MINISTRIES:**

Ruth Roland presented the 2018 funding priorities, with special attention given to personnel/staff details, which comprise the largest portion of the budget. Additionally, Ruth stated that she would like to start a future gifts/endowment fund program to increase

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

the endowment fund, with intentional focus on 2024, which will be the Church's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Scott and Ruth also shared their thoughts with Council regarding 2018 Capital Projects, including thoughts regarding pledging for these projects and possible time frames for doing this work. The Financial Advisory Committee, which is made up of former Council Treasurers, also made recommendations to Ruth and Mike that consideration be given to retaining extra capital dollars until we have a better idea of how giving in support of the 2018 Budget is looking. If the 2018 budget is fully funded, the Financial Advisory Committee suggested utilizing excess capital dollars to create a reserve for funding safety initiatives, as well as utilizing some portion of these funds for facility repairs and to pay down the cornerstone mortgage.

**INTERIM LEAD MINISTER:**

Pastor Nayiri reviewed the status of her 2017 tasks and goals, noting changes/progress compared to a year ago. From Pastor Nayiri's perspective, the mission and ministries, as well as the governance and financial resources of the Church are in good standing. Therefore, Pastor Nayiri focused the efforts of her Interim Ministry with us on reviewing the relevance of existing traditions of the Church, within our current worship structure. She also focused a lot of her time on helping Staff transition through the Interim season, while providing increased fellowship opportunities to the Congregation.

**MODERATOR:**

Connie provided an updated regarding the efforts of the Facilitator, Jason Hays, who was brought in by Council to provide support to Staff during the last months of the Pastor Nayiri's Interim Ministry. Due to some individual needs/concerns that were brought forward, Jason's work with Staff exceeded his original estimate of 15 hours, extending his time in his role with Staff into early November. Jason has agreed to provide an Executive Summary of his work with Staff, as well as suggestions for future work, that might be undertaken with our new Lead Minister.

**Vice Moderator:**

Scott Tetrick covered the facility's needs for 2018. Mike also mentioned a reduction in the General UCC office staff from 5 to 3 due to decreased OCWM funding.

**MEETING EVALUATION:**

Covered a lot. A Happy weekend coming up with Lead Minister candidate, Rev. Heather Haginduff. Good meeting. Very rich stuff.

Adjournment at 8:35 PM.

Approved by consensus.

Respectfully submitted,  
- Lisa A Mason, Secretary

  
Lisa A Mason, Council Secretary

 2/8/10  
Connie Brachtenbach, Council Moderator