



North Haven Congregational Church

Church Council Minutes

Meeting of October 21, 2008

ATTENDING

Beth Anderson (Trustees), Jim Bennett (Moderator), Priscilla Bradford (Clerk), Philip DiPeri, (Website & Antelope), Phil James (Building and Grounds), Barbara Marks (Christian Education), Scott Morrow (Senior Pastor), Tim Peiffer (Congregational Rep), Betsey Reid (Finance), John Tibor (Treasurer).

Please note that eight voting members were not present. There was not a quorum.

CALL TO ORDER

Jim Bennett called the meeting to order at 7:35 and led us in prayer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes were accepted by consensus.

TREASURER' REPORT

John reported that the Trustees have transferred the final payment of the contingency fund to the general budget. Collection of pledges and gifts is \$10,000 behind last year at this time. Building and Grounds' line is close to being spent but has money from the Cooper Fund to cover future expenses. Deacons' line is over because of the deposit for the Confirmation retreat that should be recovered. Insurance has been paid for the year resulting in extra money in that line. Music's line is over but there is money in the NB account to cover overage. Outreach has \$1,805 in NB funds to cover DESK. Fund raising line does include \$183.50 from the Candlelight Coffee House.

SENIOR PASTOR'S REPORT

Scott submitted a report of dates for upcoming events. He highlighted the Interfaith Cooperative Ministries Homelessness Forum on Nov. 10 at Misiken Israel. He attended the Connecticut Conference Annual Meeting in October. The resolution on global warming passed. The resolution addressed the need to study global warming and reduce the carbon footprint. They also voted an increase from \$4 to \$6 in the per capita tax. Scott has copies of Davida Crabtree's speech.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building and Grounds

Phil James reported that the contract for the roof has been signed. The cost is \$22,500. (Council voted previously to go ahead when the contract was reviewed and adjusted to include the new work.) Work should start week of October 27. Crack in the front sidewalk will be fixed. Raised toilet in the rest room by the library should be in by Thanksgiving. They are checking on the garage door in Carroll Hall.

Christian Education

Barbara Marks reported that the kayaking trip was a success. Bible Sunday is October 26. This is also special event Sunday and there will be a special Coffee Hour.

Deacons

John Tibor reported that there will be a new church picture directory in the spring of 2009. Deacons will schedule and Sally Pallatto will take the pictures. Work continues on revision of the membership roles. Letters have been sent to inactive members, youth and out of state members.

Finance

Betsey Reid reported that no policy can be found concerning how to distribute monies from fund raising events. She will bring a motion to the next meeting. Applications for special projects will be considered at the November meeting of the Finance Board.

Trustees

The \$10,000 from the interest of the Cooper Fund has been transferred to the Treasurer for roof repair. The fourth quarter contingency payment of \$6250 has been transferred to the operating budget. Management of the Trustees' funds has been moved from Wachovia Securities to UBS. The manager, John Lelas, stays the same. Corporation status is being researched since this information is needed to transfer from Wachovia to UBS. Members of the board will discuss how much money will be available from the Cooper Fund interest next year.

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Nominating

Since there is not a functioning Nominating Committee, Scott has requested that the chair of each committee check with their present members to determine their status-staying, going, when term is up- for the next year. In addition, the chair should identify two people for each vacant position on their committee. After this information is received, an effort will be made to make the calls needed in an efficient manner. Barbara Marks expressed concern over the absence of the Nominating Committee.

Web Site

Philip DiPeri has added several buttons to the NHCC web site. He proposed changing the name of the Web Site Working Group to the Communications Group. Motion: To change the name of the Web Site Working Group to the Communications Group and expand the original role of the Web Site Working Group to provide general assistance to staff and internal church groups in their effort to efficiently, effectively and creatively communicate the ministry of North Haven Congregational Church to its members and friends, and to the larger community. Motion to be considered at the next meeting since there is not a quorum present. Look for a new format of the Window.

Antelope

Philip DiPeri reported that they are waiting for funds to proceed with the solar energy.

Women's Fellowship

Priscilla reported for Ellie Harple that the Fellowship provided supper for the Leadership Retreat. They are getting ready for the Fair on November 15.

Associate Pastor Search Committee

Tim Peiffer reported that the committee is zeroing in on a candidate. The Council's role will be to call a Congregational Meeting to vote on calling the candidate.

NEW BUSINESS**Open and Affirming Planning Committee**

Scott submitted a report from this committee which had three options to pursue. Their recommendation is that a committee be appointed to create an O&A statement and circulate the statement for discussion and response. Bring the statement to a vote of the congregation. This recommendation needs a vote by the Council at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Next meeting is November 18 at 7:30.

Action at next meeting: Fund Raising, Web Site Committee name change, O&A recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,
Priscilla Bradford, Church Clerk