



North Haven Congregational Church

Church Council Minutes

Meeting of March 17, 2009

ATTENDING

Beth Anderson (Trustees), Joyce Bellonio (Women's Fellowship), Martin Benassi (Music), Priscilla Bradford (Clerk), Chris Corcoran (Outreach), Philip DiPeri (Moderator), Doris Ferner (Music Search Committee), Phil James (Building and Grounds), Barbara Marks (Education), Scott Morrow (Senior Pastor), Stephen Peterson (Finance), Stephen Simonson (Deacons), John Tibor (Treasurer).

CALL TO ORDER

Philip DiPeri called the meeting to order at 7:30. A moment of silence was observed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the February 24th meeting were accepted with one correction. Within the Music Board report 'they' should read 'it'.

SENIOR PASTOR'S REPORT

Scott reported that the Rev. Care Goodstal-Spinks' first day will be Thursday, March 19. Holy Week services include Maundy Thursday, Good Friday at St. John's, Saturday Prayer Vigil in our sanctuary, Easter sunrise at 6:00 on the Green, and 9:00 and 11:00 in the sanctuary. Children's special event will be during the 9:00 service. The April 5th PTO road race will not affect our events. A memorial service was held on March 14th for Ira Munson. On May 17th we will be hosting the New Haven East Consociation annual meeting. Confirmation Class went to St. Theresa's Church on March 14.

TREASURER'S REPORT

John noted that checks from the follow-up pledge appeal have not been deposited. Past due pledges for 2008 have exceeded what was budgeted. The expenses are low because we are early in the budget cycle. Expense from Building and Grounds is the

elevator maintenance contract. S. Peterson moved acceptance, M. Benassi seconded. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building and Grounds

Phil James noted that a settlement offer has been received from Nextel on the 2007 lightening strike. He has made a counter offer. The elevator maintenance contract has been reviewed and paid. A second bid was very close to the current one. CINTAS charges \$600 for checking of fire extinguishers and emergency lights. Donald Geissler, licensed electrician, will check the emergency lights at no cost. The contract for fire extinguishers will be bid for 2010. The lawn contract is under debate. Boiler inspection was done by the state. Contractors will start on the roof in mid to late April. Two people are looking at the Building Evaluation Study and making a list of jobs to be completed. Curbing damaged by the snow plows will be replaced by the town. April 18th is scheduled as the day to clean the exterior grounds. Priscilla Bradford, Stephen Peterson and Mabel Peterson painted the associate pastor's office.

Deacons

Steve Simonson stated that attendance expectations at Deacon's meetings were reviewed. Plans were made for the Maundy Thursday service. Deacons will clean the communion trays and their kitchen on March 21. Board members approved the baptism of Colin Murray.

Christian Education

Barbara expressed thanks to all those who had a part in the celebration of her service to NHCC on March 15. The Senior High group attended a fundraiser dinner at the Wallingford Baptist Church to support their trip to the Dominican Republic. Adult Education continues with conversation with

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characters of the Passion story. At the 9:00 Easter service, there will be a special children's event for ages Pre-K to 4th. She suggested that someone else besides the Board of Christian Education do coffee hour on May 17th which is Teacher Appreciation Sunday.

Christian Outreach

Chris reported that DESK is going green (recycling and not using foam) because of our influence. There is a fundraising event for DESK on April 4th at Hamden Hall. April 1st is a meeting for Habitat Sleeping Giant Build. April 6th is a wine tasting fundraiser for SGB. The offering for OGHS will be taken on March 22nd and Blanket Sunday will be May 3rd. The committee is looking into selling fair trade coffee to support the troops in Iraq. Members of the committee are also looking into using mugs during coffee hour. The monthly meeting has been changed to the first Tuesday of the month at 6:00.

Finance

Steve Peterson reported that 47% of the budget shortfall has been pledged. The committee members are working on good record keeping of pledges.

Music

Martin felt that the New Haven East Consociation Choir Festival was a well received event. The Contemporary Music Grant will end in May. Special Easter music will be three brass players from Hartt School of Music. The Mikos was enjoyed at the Pierpont Concert. May 9th is the next one. Scheduling for next year's concerts has begun. The committee discussed the projected budget shortfall.

Trustees

Beth had no report.

Women's Fellowship

Joyce said that the Fellowship hosted a reception after the memorial service for Ira Munson. They are contributing monies to refurbish the associate pastor's study.

Memorial Gifts

Joyce reported that donations have been received in memory of Les Frost.

Personnel

Confidential report attached.

Response Team

Steve Simonson has scheduled a meeting on March 29th after church.

Communication Group

Philip DiPeri reported that he and Scott attended training for face book sponsored by the Connecticut Conference.

Moderator's Report

Philip DiPeri commented about the importance of delivering articles for the Window on time. Let Nancie know the chair of your committee. He went to a gathering of church moderators hosted by the Connecticut Conference and held at NHCC. The youth group made lunch and put the proceeds from their work into the mission trip fund. He is looking for a third person to be on the O&A committee. He is also forming a Capital Campaign Steering Committee.

Nominating

John Tibor moved that Linda Kirk be added to the Board of Deacons with the term ending in 2012. Beth Anderson seconded. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Doris Ferner of the Music Search Committee presented the job description for the Director of Music Ministries. Discussion followed. S. Peterson moved that the Council accept the job description and authorized the search committee to make editorial changes based on the discussion of the Council. M. Benassi seconded. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

Next Council meeting is April 21 at 7:30.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15.

Respectfully submitted,
Priscilla Bradford, Church Clerk