



North Haven Congregational Church

Church Council Minutes

Meeting of May 19, 2009

ATTENDING

Beth Anderson (Trustees), Martin Benassi (Music), Priscilla Bradford (Clerk), Chris Corcoran (Outreach), Philip DiPeri (Moderator), Care Goodstal-Spinks (Associate Pastor), Phil James (Building and Grounds), Betsey Reid (Finance), Steve Simonson (Deacons), John Tibor (Treasurer), Non-voting attendee: Doris Ferner (Music Search Committee)

CALL TO ORDER

Philip DiPeri called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm and Priscilla Bradford read a paragraph on peace composed by a middle school student at Hamden Hall for the New Haven Chorale concert.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the April 21, 2009 meeting were accepted as printed. Motion made by B. Anderson and seconded by M. Benassi.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REPORT

Care will be on call this week while Scott is at a preaching conference. She congratulated the people who organized the celebration of Sunday School volunteers on Sunday. Summer Sunday School and Nursery coverage volunteers are still needed. Christian Education Board will do coffee on May 31, Confirmation Sunday. She plans to meet in June with the CE Board and people teaching in the fall to order supplies. She asked about the history of the Sunday School youth celebrating communion apart from the rest of the congregation. She would also like to meet with people who have participated in adult education programs and hear their preferences. Vacation Bible School plans are underway. The last meeting of the Senior High Youth was on May 13th. They took an individual spiritual inventory and brainstormed ideas for next year. Volunteers are needed to serve as advisors. CE Board will look at time of meeting for

next year. A reduced number of youth have signed up for the summer youth mission trip. Care is impressed with the offerings of the Connecticut Conference and hopes people will take advantage of the educational opportunities. Scott and Care are looking to establish a regular schedule for her and a way to contact her when she is not in the office.

TREASURER'S REPORT

John stated that the report shows expenses through May 17 but not May 17th collection. Book Sale netted \$4089.68 as of this report and Blanket Sunday \$566. The \$50 in Memorial Gifts will be transferred to the Cooper Fund. M. Benassi moved acceptance and P. James seconded the motion. Approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Buildings & Grounds

Phil James reported that we have received the Nextel/Sprint check for the lightening damage in June of 2007. The roof is done and the board is negotiating a rebate for the moisture barrier that was not put on the south side of Carroll Hall. One citation in the fire inspector's report has been fixed. The first repair priority of the board is the steeple. In the summer, they plan to have the sanctuary windows painted and the concrete stairway from Carroll Hall fixed.

Deacons

Steve reported that the 'Everyone Knows Your Name' project will be here soon. See the newsletter. The Deacons are looking to establish a prayer chain. Other issues the Deacons are studying are: postlude change, attendance data sign in sheets and name tags. The deacons will host a dessert night on May 27th for confirmands and mentors.

Outreach

Chris is glad that DESK is running smoothly. Greg Pierce helps out when needed. The Sleeping Giant

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Habitat Build on Edgecomb Street in Hamden has begun. NHCC is not a sponsor this time so we will not have a scheduled time but volunteers are always welcome. The board is looking to host an annual blood drive probably in November and checking on offering CPR classes. The board has been looking into selling fair trade coffee and will not sell it but encourage people to buy it on line. They will supply information and use it for coffee hour. ICM is offering a seminar titled ROOF on how to avoid foreclosure. Chris is checking on the possibility of obtaining a defibrillator from his company that is moving to Florida. We need to replace the gas stove in the kitchen. The board is looking for a grant. Philip DiPeri's workshop on setting up a home based business was well received.

Finance

Betsey reported that the step-up appeal is \$10,000 short. The Finance Board and the Deacons are looking at how to use the Nextel funds.

Music

Martin said that the last Pierpont Concert went well. Look for the recording on public access TV. The contemporary music grant will end. Next years Pierpont Concert dates are Oct 24, Grassroots; Dec 5, Wesleyan Spirits; Apr 24, Hoe. The children's concert was well received.

Trustees

Beth stated that the second contingency payment to the budget has been made. They are working with John Lelas, financial advisor, concerning transfer of funds from Wachovia to UBS.

Congregation Rep

Care, per request of Tim, passed around the coffee hour sign up sheet and asked each board to be responsible for two Sundays.

Communication Group

Philip DiPeri reminded us to be on time with articles for the Window.

MODERATOR'S REPORT

Philip DiPeri reported that a group of three-Stephen Peterson, Betsy Gumbart and Priscilla Bradford have met and been directed to write an Open and Affirming statement. It will then go to the Deacons who will facilitate dialogue about the statement.

NEW BUSINESS

Music Director Search

Doris stated that the committee has had two interviews with a third pending. They will be scheduling a second interview with the minister and choir. The ad for the position will be in the July/August CONNtact.

Church Calendar

Priscilla Bradford moved and Phil James seconded a motion that a Book Sale be scheduled for April 23 and 24, 2010. Carroll Hall will be in use from April 19th to the 27th. Motion Approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Summer Council meetings: June 16, July 21
(pot-luck at Betsey Reid's), August 18
Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Priscilla Bradford, Church Clerk