



North Haven Congregational Church

Church Council Minutes

Meeting of August 18, 2009

ATTENDING

Beth Anderson (Trustee), Martin Benassi (Music), Priscilla Bradford (Clerk), Chris Corcoran (Outreach), Philip DiPeri (Moderator), Phil James (Building and Grounds), Scott Morrow (Senior Pastor), Betsey Reid (Finance), John Tibor (Treasurer).

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the moderator at 7:39. Scott led us in prayer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the July 21st meeting were corrected as follows: Finance: Buildings and Grounds will not be budgeting this expense in 2010. Communications Group: Replace sentence with: The September Window will introduce a dedicated two-page section focusing on Christian education and youth events to make it easier for those who have an interest to find relevant information more quickly. Minutes approved as corrected on a motion made by J. Tibor and seconded by C. Corcoran.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The report is up to date including Sunday's collection. Buildings and Grounds will go over budget. Report accepted on a motion by B. Anderson and seconded by B. Reid.

SENIOR PASTOR'S REPORT

Scott reported that Anne Lee (organist) was at the staff meeting last week. She will begin on August 23rd. The new digital sound system will cost \$2,300 and include 3 mikes and a base. Proposal will go to Memorial Gifts after a trial run during a service. Dates were proposed for Question and Answer Sessions on the Open and Affirming Statement. The four adult education sessions in September and October will address the Open and Affirming

Statement. A Calendar Retreat will be held on August 29, 9am-1pm. Please encourage members of your board to come. The emphasis for this program year will be the Welcoming Project, Open and Affirming Statement, and integrating children and youth into the life of the church.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Buildings and Grounds

Phil James reported that the steps from Carroll Hall to the parking lot and from the kitchen to the parking lot have been repaired for \$1,720. A bid has been received for \$1,400 to paint the lower half of the four sanctuary windows on the south side. An initial bid of \$47,000 was received to rebuild the steeple. The committee is looking for another bid on a less extensive repair. Plans are in the works to repair and paint the concrete sanctuary steps. The town will re-line the parking lot and re-do the curbs. Phil talked to the Masons about the use of the parking lot. Hand sanitizer is available in the narthex. Trees will be trimmed at the parsonage.

Christian Outreach

Chris said that a meeting is scheduled for tomorrow. The November Blood Drive is scheduled. Habitat will soon have dates for volunteers.

Finance

Betsey reminded us that the budget is still \$5,000 short. She is asking boards to look at their budget and let the Finance Board know how much they can save. The Finance Board is requesting that the heat not be turned on until mid October. A request from Buildings and Grounds for \$1,600 from the Nextel-Replacement Reserve to cover the painting of the sanctuary windows was approved. Plans for the Stewardship Campaign include inviting four members to speak about what they love about the church and two letters will be sent to the members

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before Stewardship Sunday on November 15th. Boards should have budget requests in by September 8th. A coffee hour in October will be a time for all boards to have a display to explain their budget. Special Projects will be heard at the November Finance Board meeting. Projects are to help grow membership.

Music

Martin reported that the board members are finalizing the Pierpont Concerts. Anne Lee was at their meeting. September 2nd is the first choir practice.

Trustees

Beth said that all the Trustees agreed to the proposal to pay for the elevator maintenance contract for 2009 and 2010. The money to pay the third quarter contingency to the budget will be transferred soon. Trustees will meet with John Lelas (financial consultant) on September 9th at 6:00 pm.

Communications Group

Philip DiPeri reminded us to always remember to mention the website when communicating dates, etc. to committees and to inform Nancie for the calendar.

MODERATOR'S REPORT

Philip DiPeri passed out information about strategies and actions to help mitigate effects on the community during a pandemic flu. Beth asked how we were organized to care for members who may need help with groceries, etc. during this time. Philip showed us an idea for a fund raiser which was a personal silhouette generated on the computer and framed.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion of the proposed by-law changes.
Discussion of the Welcoming special project.

ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting is September 15 at 7:30 pm.
Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Priscilla Bradford, Clerk