



## North Haven Congregational Church

# Church Council Minutes

Meeting of April 20, 2010

### ATTENDING

Beth Anderson (Trustees), Patience Benassi (Deacons), Priscilla Bradford (Clerk), Chris Corcoran (Outreach), Philip DiPeri (Moderator), Care Goodstal-Spinks (Associate Pastor), Scott Morrow (Senior Pastor), Carol Mitchell (Music), Mabel Peterson (Nominating), Stephen Peterson (Christian Education), Julie Schweickert (subbing for Adam) (Finance), Kevin Studley (Building and Grounds), John Tibor (Treasurer).

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by the moderator. Priscilla Bradford read a devotion.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of March 16, 2010 meeting were accepted as printed on a motion by B. Anderson and seconded by M. Peterson.

### SENIOR PASTOR'S REPORT

Scott reported the following:

Abraham's Tent: The program will continue next year. There is a need to call the governor or your state representative to advocate for money for Columbus House during the state budget hearings.

Scott felt that Ed Dudley's expression of appreciation of help during his health emergency shows the need for the revival of the Sharing and Caring program. There are plenty of volunteers for help. The program needs a coordinator.

Connecticut Conference Spring Annual Meeting is May 8 at the First Congregational Church in Madison. There will be many workshops on many issues our church faces.

New Haven East Consociation meeting will be in Madison on May 16.

### ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REPORT

Care reported the following:

The youth groups went on a trip to the Kingdom Life Church in Milford as part of their education on different forms of worship. Then they enjoyed an ethnic lunch in New Haven. Their end of the year party will be on May 2.

The Church School is practicing special music for Teacher Appreciation Day on May 16.

Follow-up evaluation session on adult education to be scheduled.

Members of the Mission Trip team have raised \$5,000 toward the trip. They have two more breakfasts scheduled and St. John's will hold a bake sale on June 27 to benefit the trip.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

John noted that the report is current to today thanks to Larry Ballantyne. Note that the checkbook balance is \$4,000. Staff salaries and benefits of \$15,000 are payable soon. We are experiencing the effects of approving a deficit budget-cash flow problems. This means tapping into the Antenna Cell Tower funds to cover payments. Also note that Building and Grounds has \$2,700 left and more than that is committed to cover the lawn contract. On April 2, a bill for \$1,900 was received to cover the repairs to the heating system. The per capita bill for \$2,622 from the Connecticut Conference has been received. On the income side, \$275 was placed in fund raising from the sale of a lawn mower donated by the Pallatos. The Food Council donated \$3,500 for use of the building which was credited to Building Contribution. K. Studley moved that we receive the report with appreciation. B. Anderson seconded.

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## MODERATOR'S REPORT

Philip reported that the Auditing Committee will meet next Thursday. He is trying to get the Personnel Committee active.

## OLD BUSINESS

### Minutes of 2010 Annual Meeting

Motion: S. Peterson moved and B. Anderson seconded the motion that the minutes of the 2010 Annual Meeting be accepted pending formal approval at the 2011 Annual Meeting. Passed.

### Capital Campaign

Scott noted that previous capital campaigns have centered around projects-refurbishing the sanctuary and installing the elevator. Campaigns traditionally energize the membership and they continue to give. Needed is a group of people to decide on the projects and how to organize the campaign.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Building and Grounds

Kevin reported that the new table in Carroll Hall has been assembled. The lawn mower has been sold. Projects that need attention: the steeple is leaking; there are loose shingles on the sanctuary roof; there is a crack in the front steps; wiring for lights at the front of the church needs to be replaced.

### Deacons

Patience urged everyone to wear their name tags. Be patient with glitches. Be responsive to alerts about the new directory.

### Christian Education

Steve reported that the board is looking for a new director for VBS. They have had one response.

### Christian Outreach

Chris urged volunteers to sign up for the Soup Kitchen in May. May 9 will be Blanket Sunday. We exceeded the expectations of the social worker and provided her with 52 Easter baskets. Mitch Grant is looking into what support groups are available for the

unemployed. No news on the next Sleeping Giant Habitat Build. On June 13, we will sign the covenant with the Covenant to Care Social Worker.

### Board of Finance

Julie (for Adam) reported that the board discussed the cash flow deficit cause by the deficit budget. Letters will be sent next week to members for a supplemental appeal. Scott expressed concern about how to approach the financial situation and strike a balance between the good things and the financial deficit. He also stressed that members need to identify their supplemental pledges so bookkeeping is accurate.

### Music

Carol reminded us that the last Pierpont Concert is May 1 The New Haven East Consociation Choir Festival was a wonderful experience. They are planning for next year's concerts. Carol is saving the ad for choir members for August.

### Trustees

Beth reported that the \$1,200 yearly check for the lighting project has been forwarded to the treasurer. The quarterly trustee transfer will be made next Sunday. The Trustees and the Treasurer are looking at the budget to identify items that are maintenance and could be covered by the Cooper Fund.

### Nominating

Mabel noted that two members are needed on the Finance Board and two on the Board of Deacons. M. Peterson moved and B. Anderson seconded a motion to elect Mitch Grant to the Board of Christian Outreach and move Bob Nerkowski to an associate position on that board. Passed.

## ADJOURNMENT

Next Council meeting is May 18 at 7:30 pm.

Leadership Meeting and Calendar Planning on June 12.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Priscilla Bradford, Church Clerk