



North Haven Congregational Church

Church Council Minutes

Meeting of May 18, 2010

ATTENDING

Beth Anderson (Trustees, Clerk Pro-Tem), Priscilla Bradford (Clerk, Moderator Pro-Tem), Doris Ferner (Deacons), Care Goodstal-Spinks (Associate Pastor), Phil James (Building and Grounds), Carol Mitchell (Music), Scott Morrow (Senior Pastor), Mabel Peterson (Nominating), Stephen Peterson (Christian Education), John Tibor (Treasurer).

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm by acting moderator Priscilla Bradford. She read a devotional message.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the April 20, 2010 meeting were accepted on a motion by D. Ferner and seconded by B. Anderson.

SENIOR PASTOR'S REPORT

Scott reported the following:

- ✓ For dates of church events see the website.
- ✓ He is working on his goals for 2010. The preaching schedule is set for 6 months ahead. Worship will be planned a season ahead and hymns chosen a month at a time. Fridays are for sermon writing. A schedule has been set up for pastoral visitations. This will be coordinated with the Deacons. He is also working on governance review, membership review and the welcoming project.
- ✓ Confirmation class will have a different design with probably nine candidates.
- ✓ The Director of Music has resigned. A search committee will be formed. They should look at the job description and financial situation.
- ✓ New member's discussion had six in attendance.
- ✓ Fire Alarm Policy review is ongoing.

- ✓ Abraham's Tent will repeat next year.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REPORT

Care reported the following:

- ✓ Sunday School is over for the season. It ended with a wonderful Festival Day.
- ✓ Volunteers needed for Summer Sunday School and Nursery.
- ✓ The Corcoran family donated a puppet theater.
- ✓ Mission Trip breakfast on May 23. Trip is almost funded.
- ✓ The Leadership/Planning Retreat will be on June 12, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.
- ✓ Care asked if it is possible for our church to be put on a list of places that mission groups could use when traveling through the area or working in the area.

TREASURER'S REPORT

John noted that Building and Grounds will be out of money with the payment of the lawn care commitment. The fund raiser line reflects the \$3,436.45 raised by the Book Sale. Payment of \$260.00 to the Pierpont Concert performers will need to be subtracted from this line. The Mission Trip members have donated 10% of the money they have raised to the fund-raiser line. S. Peterson moved that we receive the report with appreciation. D. Ferner seconded.

MODERATOR'S REPORT

Philip DiPeri submitted the following written report:

Both the Auditing and the Personnel Committee are fully functional. The Auditing Committee expects to complete its work by the end of the year. The Personnel Committee plans to create an official manual by the end of the year.

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NEW BUSINESS

Motion: Members of the Council authorize the Moderator to form a search committee for the position of Director of Music. Motion made by B. Anderson and seconded by D. Ferner. Accepted.

Discussion concerning the potential implications of the financial situation of approving a \$22,000 deficit budget at the Annual Meeting.

- ✓ Cash flow.
- ✓ Finance Board - second appeal letters to go out.
- ✓ Decision may have to be made about cutting expenses.
- ✓ Pledge report to go out three times a year.
- ✓ Standard report of the status of the budget to appear monthly in the Window and on the web along with how to make a pledge.
- ✓ Need a long range strategic plan.
- ✓ Finance Board needs two more members.
- ✓ Need a specific plan to raise the money for fund-raising line.
- ✓ Ideas: Service Auction, Suppers, Programs, Note and Christmas cards.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building and Grounds:

Phil James reported:

- ✓ Roof-leak in office has been fixed and the sanctuary roof has been patched.
- ✓ Leak in the steeple-waiting to hear from Nextel people.
- ✓ New utility pole has been installed at the parsonage and pine trees are to be trimmed.
- ✓ Waiting for a quote from the mason for the repair of the front steps. All groups must remove stored items from under the steps.
- ✓ Martin Benassi is working on a proposal to repair the steeple from the spire to the base.

- ✓ Replacement of Heath room windows is under review.
- ✓ Working on Fire Alarm Evacuation policy.
- ✓ Trim on about 12 windows will be painted, if funds are available.
- ✓ Working on sanctuary doors.

Deacons

Doris reported that the name tag project has begun. Care's evaluation is completed and the Pastoral Relations Committee is finalizing goals. Deacon of the week will act as a buffer between members and the ministers between 9:00 and 9:30 am on Sunday morning so they can prepare for worship. The new directory is expected in the fall.

Christian Education

Steve reported that there have been two candidates interviewed for VBS director and the job will be filled shortly. St John's musician will do VBS.

Music Board

Carol reported that Anne Lee's last Sunday will be May 30. There will be a special coffee hour. Pierpont concert series is in the planning stages.

Nominating Committee

Mabel expressed concern over the positions that need to be filled especially on the Finance Board. The following boards have vacancies: Finance-2; Deacons-2; Memorial Gifts-1; Nominating-1.

OTHER ITEMS

Point of information: Priscilla reported that a new phone system will be installed. We will be able to eliminate one line coming into the church and the \$400 yearly maintenance fee. Memorial Gifts will fund the project.

Reminder: Leadership Meeting and Council Planning on June 12.

ADJOURNMENT

Next Council meeting is June 15, 2010 at 7:30 pm.
Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Anderson (note taker), Priscilla Bradford (typist), Clerk