



North Haven Congregational Church

Board of Finance Minutes

Meeting of July 8, 2008

Attending: P. DiPeri, S. Peterson, B. Reid, A. Schweickert

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Reid at 6:15 pm.

Minutes: On motion by A. Schweickert and second by P. DiPeri, the minutes of the June 10 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report as of July 6 was reviewed. Although a strong positive balance is showing, there was concern that this may be due chiefly to the vacant associate pastoral position. The Board is asking the Treasurer to break out the salary and benefits detail in the report for August. P. DiPeri moved to accept the report as submitted. S. Peterson second and the motion carried.

Recording Secretary Report: The recording secretary reported to B. Reid that some \$87,900 or 48% of pledged income has been received by the first week in July. In commenting on the report, B. Reid indicated that she had prepared and given S. Morrow a three-year summary of pledges. 2008 is the only year in which the percentage of pledging units dropped below 50% of the total church membership.

Council Report: B. Reid reported that the Council is prepared to approve partial roof replacement, but will not do so until full specifications and costs have been finalized.

Old Business

- **Nextel – Second Antenna:** Nextel has indicated that it now is not planning to add a second antenna to our installation. A. Schweickert advised that in all future discussions with Nextel, we should continue to press for payment for tower costs NHCC incurred in the 2007 storm.
- **Office Copier:** A. Schweickert reported on a new photocopier lease. The offering company is CopyTex. They are offering a three-year lease for 75,000 copies, at the monthly rate of \$189.00. Excess copies will be billed at \$.013. These costs do not

include paper and staples. The proposed copier also serves as a fax machine and will be networked as a printer. It does two-sided copying, collates, and staples. B. Reid and A. Schweickert will coordinate the implementation of this lease with Nancie Estep.

- **Counters:** A revised schedule of Sunday counters through the end of 2008 was distributed. P. James and P. Bradford have indicated a willingness to substitute for Board members.
- **Leadership Planning:** B. Reid and S. Morrow are now looking for a date/time in September for a church leadership meeting to explore the feasibility of a capital campaign. Board members indicated that, although the economy is still lagging, some of the energy efficiency initiatives have time frames that we should not neglect. Board members also thought that a leadership meeting should focus on not more than three major issues: church membership development, reinvigorating church school and youth ministries, and facility renovation for energy efficiency.
- **Antelope Project:** P. DiPeri reported that he was conducting a thorough walk-through on July 9 and that he would issue a report to the Board following that occasion.
- **Fall Stewardship Campaign:** Two ideas for the 2009 stewardship campaign were briefly discussed. One approach would be to concentrate on the actual costs of church operations to help people understand more fully what their fair share of these costs is. The other approach focused on seeking advance commitments from 20-30 pledging units as a way of building confidence in the face of the general economy and the apparent atrophy of some of our programs. This item will be a major agenda item in the Board's September meeting.

New Business: There was no new business.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is set for 6 pm on September 9.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

S. Peterson, Secretary

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