



North Haven Congregational Church

Board of Finance Minutes

Meeting of October 14, 2008

ATTENDING

Philip DiPeri; Adam Schweickert; Steve Peterson chair
pro temp

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 6:40.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the 9 September 2008 meeting were corrected and approved upon motion by Philip DiPeri, second Adam Schweickert.

REPORTS

Written reports from the Recording Secretary and the Treasurer were reviewed and accepted as presented.

Motion: Based on a review of these reports, and particularly the apparent lag in pledge income, Philip DiPeri moved that the Recording Secretary be asked to mail interim pledge status reports to all pledging units at the end of the first three fiscal quarters, i.e. April 1, July 1, and October 1. Adam Schweickert second and the motion carried.

Special Business

Laura Ouimette presented a request from then Music Committee for an extension of their Nextel Project grant. (A copy of the request is attached). Although the full Board will need to take action on this request at its November 11 meeting, the members present were disinclined to approve the request.

Discussion

- There seems to be little or no active support for this project from the Music Committee itself.
- Given the obvious time and effort this project will require, the Music Committee should be encouraged to re-apply, without prejudice, for this

project grant when it is able to take the required actions to bring the project to fruition.

Council Business

The Board considered the issue of funding raising income. There was consensus in favor of a general policy that all funds raised by Boards and Committees of the Church should go directly to the unrestricted income of the Church. Boards and Committees seeking support for a special project or purpose which is not or cannot be included in the Church budget and which is not suitable for Special Project support through the Nextel funds, should submit a request for fund raising along with their annual budget request.

Discussion

- With one or two notable exceptions, most fund-raising activities do not produce significant income. Their chief benefit is fostering fellowship and a stronger sense of community.
- Proliferation of fund-raising activities may polarize church groups and detract attention from stewardship.
- Using fund-raising, as an income line item, to balance the annual budget, may be a misleading and unwise budgeting strategy.

OLD BUSINESS

Stewardship letter and schedule reviewed

NEW BUSINESS

The budget request worksheet was reviewed, but a more detailed examination will be given in the November meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Next Meeting, November 11, 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Peterson, Secretary

North Haven Congregational Church

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