

OPERATIONS COUNCIL MINUTES Final

April 18, 2023
Via Zoom online

Attending via Zoom: Susan Bartlett, Laurel Farnsworth, Jud Leonard, Karen Bottar, Wayne Everett, Eric Haas, Chris Krebs (BOT), Devin Shmueli (after 7:40 p.m.), Linda Ross (asst clerk)

Called to order 7:00p.m.

Invocation/Chalice Lighting/Reading –Laurel

Covenant

As we, the members of this Council and staff, gather to serve this congregation in leadership, we commit to ourselves and to each other: to be present and prepared for the work of this meeting; to listen well and contribute respectfully; to balance both our short and long-term visions with fiscal responsibility; to support the decisions of the Council; to uphold the democratic process; and to lead with goodwill and faith in the work we can accomplish together.

Approvals:

- Jud moved and Laurel seconded that the March minutes be approved. Unanimous approval, motion passed.
- By email
 - Susan sent an email on March 26 with a proposal from the UUUM delegates for the PEWS project. Four voted approval, proposal was approved.
 - Susan sent an email on March 27 with a request from Demie to have the FUUSN bells rung for 11 minutes at 11 am on Earth Day, April 22nd, in conjunction with other faith communities. Five voted yes, proposal was approved.

FY24 Personnel Budget

- The newly reconstituted PPC committee consists of John Adkins, Betty Lenmes, Lila McCain (consultant)
- Laurel read the personnel items in budget (Susan was having connection issues.)
- The salaries reflect items that were discussed at the March Ops Council meeting
- Overall, it is similar to last year
- Additions and deletions were reviewed
- The finance committee is looking to pass a budget with a \$50,000 deficit (now at \$64,000); some funds have been removed from B & G budget to help reach this amount.
- There is concern about the budget because the budget drive is not doing as well as hoped at this time.
- Karen moved to accept the personnel budget, Jud seconded, unanimous approval, motion passed

Staff update –Devin

- 4 new members have been approved by the board, 2 more applications are going to the board
- He is having coffee and conversations this week with one potential new member, and has 3 more in next few weeks.

- RE has been going well. He is gearing up for the Coming of Age service May 7 and RE Sunday June 4.

Report on March BOT Meeting – Jud – Discussions of:

- New members of the congregation
- Potential members of the search committee; there will be an executive session to discuss criteria
- Collaborations with the nominating committee re their nominations and search committee members
- Communications coordinator position
- No net increase from FY 23 budget
- Values and history – get congregation involved
- Need for work on the basement and parking lot
- Re-visioning of the social action committee
- Bylaws term limits – discussion postponed
- Food at the annual meeting; the plant-based eating group has offered to prepare food. Saul Lookner expressed interest in helping doing BBQ.

Financial – Karen

- March
 - Pledges are coming in for this year
 - Special building use fees are coming in and are already over budget
 - Expenses
 - § Figuring out what will actually be spent this year
 - § Utilities – reduced the amount in this year's budget for electricity
 - § There are expenses in the music budget for Anne's replacements while she is on sabbatical.
 - Looks like break even for end of year at this time
- Annual Budget Drive
 - Most recent update \$542,181 (as of April 18) – goal is \$615,000

FUUSN Covid Protocols

- Updated metrics
- No changes in protocols

Update: Committee activities

- Minster's pictures working group proposal, including D. Golann question
 - Laurel, Christine Lookner, Hattie, RoseAnn are the group
 - Met on Zoom twice
 - The proposal was sent out with the agenda
 - Two sessions are booked – one in person after the service on April 30, one on Zoom May 4 – for people to discuss

- Would like whatever is decided to be a congregational project, especially developing material behind QR codes – needs enthusiastic volunteers
- Discussion of proposal
 - § The building has many outdated pieces of history
 - § Would be useful to have a process to remove and/or replace
 - § D. Golann had obtained a poster that he proposed hanging. Consensus was not to do anything at this time; it will be part of a larger discussion.
- B & G project updates - Laurel
 - The bid for a new basement entrance was almost \$500,000, and that project is currently on hold
 - A soils engineer will charge \$18,000 to do soil testing, to see if the entrance might be constructed at lower cost. There is enough money in the B & G budget this year to cover this.
 - She has also proposed to Pine Village that they share costs in return for reduced rent for the basement space.
 - Eric moved to approve \$18,000 for the soil testing; Karen seconded; unanimous approval, motion passed.

Thank yous – Bob Persons for repair of a broken valve in the boiler room (in the middle of the night); Chris Dame for the community breakfast

Meeting adjourned 8:37 p.m.