

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
MINUTES OF THE BOARD
April 18, 2023

Moderator Chuck Rounds called the regular meeting of the Board to order at 7:05 p.m. Those present were Chuck Rounds, Eileen Rossow, Patti Arneson, Harlan Stephens, Susan Kelts, Bonnie Edwards, Becky Fisher, Dave Ledford, Cindy Ledford, Carol Boyles, Alicia Sutliff-Benusis, and Erin Erickson.

Eileen Rossow gave devotions from “The Upper Room” on 1 Kings 19 about turning criticism into an opportunity to seek God’s guidance.

There was one addition to the agenda - Approval of Covenant of Licensure for Becky Fleming for 2023.

The minutes of the March 21, 2023 board meeting were approved with a motion by Bonnie Edwards and a second by Patti Arneson.

The sign-up sheet for money counters was passed.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. Buildings and Grounds Dave Ledford reported that they had purchased weed and feed for the grounds. He also presented a quote from Lighting Maintenance for a flood light at the front of the building and two smaller flood lights for the front of the sanctuary. Total quote was \$4,312. A question was raised as to the source of the funds for this expense. It was decided to table this item until Stewardship and Budget could determine funding.
2. Stewardship and Budget Harlan Stephens reported that our financials are good. CD’s have been transferred to T-Bills to gain more interest income.
3. Education Patti Arneson reported that we will have the End of the Year Celebration on May 28th with pizza provided by the Department and asking the congregation to bring potluck salads and dessert. Vacation Bible School will be held on August 1, 2, & 3.
4. Hospitality No report.
5. Ministries No report.
6. Worship Bonnie Edwards asked Erin Erickson to report on the music. Erin will be meeting with the group that want more singable music next Sunday to find out what they would like to do.
7. Congregational Representative Becky Fisher reported that there was a question about the posted church hours. Patti and Erin will make sure that the signs at the front door indicate the correct open hours.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Infection Control Procedures. No changes. It was decided that this item will only be considered in the future if Covid conditions change.
2. There was discussion concerning the use of absentee voting. Alicia Sutliff-Benusis presented information about the ability of using zoom to vote anonymously. Alicia volunteered to work on the wording to be used in order to amend the constitution to allow absentee voting.
3. Chuck Rounds reported that Randy Fisher is working on preliminary work for creating a committee for the sale of the backyard property.
4. It was reported that a Covenant of Licensure needs to be reviewed and renewed by the Board every year for Beck Fleming. Bonnie Edwards moved that the Covenant should be renewed for 2023. Susan Kelts seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

1. There was discussion concerning the need for volunteers for coffee hour. It was suggested that the Hospitality Department should have the responsibility of getting volunteers. This would require a change to the Constitution to include that responsibility.

2. Pastor Erin presented the CEC Job Description. It was suggested that instead of designating June and July as months off, the description should read 60 days in the summer. It was moved by Eileen Rossow and seconded by Harlan Stephens to approve the Job Description for publication with the one change.
3. Pastor Erin reported that we will have a women's retreat on May 13th at the church from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. with the theme of "Coming Back to Center".
4. Pastor Erin reported that we need to have a clean-up of the stored items in the front of the sanctuary. Dave Ledford also suggested that the basement needs some clean-up attention. Pastor Erin and Dave will work together to figure out a plan.

Devotions will be given by Susan Kelts for the May meeting.

The next Board meeting will be May 16, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Eileen Rossow
Clerk