

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
MINUTES OF THE BOARD
February 28, 2023

Moderator Chuck Rounds called the regular meeting of the Board to order at 7:00 p.m. Those present were Chuck Rounds, Eileen Rossow, Patti Arneson, Carol Boyles, Harlan Stephens, Susan Kelts, Bonnie Edwards, Becky Fisher, Randy Fisher, Jim Webster, Rob Burton, Robin Franson, Kevin Sandmeier, and Erin Erickson.

Patti Arneson gave devotions on “Joining Together to Strengthen the Community.”

There was one addition to the agenda - Approval of the Employment Contract with Erin Erickson.

The minutes of the January 17, 2023 board meeting, the January 29, 2023 annual meeting, and the February 26, 2023 special meeting were approved with a motion by Patti Arneson and a second by Susan Kelts.

The sign-up sheet for money counters was passed.

Randy Fisher gave a presentation on the possibilities of potential income from the sale of the land on the northeast portion of the church property. After the presentation and discussion Carol Boyles moved to create a task force headed by Randy Fisher to look into the opportunities for such a project. Bonnie Edwards seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. Buildings and Grounds Jim Webster – no report.
2. Stewardship and Budget Harlan Stephens reported that our financials are good.
3. Education Patti Arneson reported that they will have special Easter activities on Palm Sunday. Erin Erickson reported that the confirmation students will have a “Lock-In” at the church on March 10th. They will give their presentations in church on Sunday, March 19th. March 26th will be Confirmation Sunday.
4. Hospitality Robin Franson reported that they are just getting started on plans and that they will possibly have a St. Patrick’s Day event.
5. Ministries Cindy Ledford reported that they elected new officers and that the next Mission Meal will be March 31, 2023.
6. Worship Bonnie Edwards – no report.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Infection Control Procedures. No changes.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Becky Fisher made suggestions about making the nominating committee/congregational representatives more efficient in the process of electing committee members and providing service to the congregation. It was suggested that the three representative’s names should be included on the back of the Bulletin. It was also suggested that they have an article in the Call telling the congregation who they are and what their responsibilities are.

2. There was discussion about the constitutional requirement of in-person attendance for voting purposes for congregational meetings. Alicia Sutliff-Benusis will be invited to present suggestions for consideration of changing the bylaws to no longer require in-person voting.
3. The employment contract for Erin Erickson was presented to the board. There was discussion about several changes to the final draft including mileage payment determination and acknowledgement of potential changes to the salary with ordination completion. Bonnie Edwards moved and Patti Arneson seconded approval of the contract with the discussed changes. The motion passed.

Devotions will be given by Erin Erickson for the March meeting.

The next Board meeting will be March 21, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Eileen Rossow
Clerk