

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
MINUTES OF THE BOARD
October 17, 2023

Assistant Moderator Susan Kelts called the regular meeting of the Board to order at 7:05 p.m. Those present were Eileen Rossow, Patti Arneson, Carol Boyles, Erin Erickson, Susan Kelts, Randy Fisher, Becky Fisher, Mary Haan, and Harlan Stephens.

Erin Erickson gave devotions on Blessing of the Precious Mess by Anna Blaedel

Shawn Krull gave a report on the lighting needs in the entry, narthex, parlor, and sanctuary.

The minutes of the September 19, 2023 board meeting were approved with a motion by Patti Arneson and a second by Harlan Stephens.

The sign-up sheet for money counters was passed. We were reminded that if we are not able to fulfill a scheduled time, it is our responsibility to find a replacement counter.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. Buildings and Grounds Randy Fisher reported that the quote from Action Mechanical for the new Instant Water Heater will be \$2,110. It was moved by Carol Boyles and seconded by Harlan Stephens to give the go ahead on replacing the water heater. The payment should come out of the Legacy Fund. Randy gave a brief update on the land proposal. He has met with the committee several times. Those on the committee are Randy Fisher, Robin Eddy, Becky Fleming, Kyle Graumun, Pat Lebrun, and Dave Ledford. Randy has met with the city planning dept., engineering dept., fire dept., and tax and finance dept. to make sure that we have all the information we need about the land. All of the zoning has been done. He also wanted to assure the board that the land sale is not the only option on the table. The committee is working on several ideas and they are still in the process of vetting all of the requirements and possibilities. He asked that the board approve the request to the city to vacate the two parcels of land that are currently owned by the city. Harlan Stephens moved to approve the application to the city to vacate the two parcels of land. Carol Boyles seconded the motion. Motion approved. Susan Kelts will sign the application as a representative of the board and the church.
2. Stewardship and Budget Harlan Stephens reported that donations are down, but that the budget is fine. They will be initiating the pledge drive soon. Erin has asked Kenny Putnam to design a brochure for the pledge drive. **All departments are required to have their budget requests for 2024 to Stewardship and Budget (Denise Webster) by November 9th.**
3. Education Patti Arneson reported that Lynn Grauman and Elsa have volunteered to be in charge of the nursery on Sundays.
4. Hospitality No Report.
5. Ministries No Report.
6. Worship Susan Kelts reported for Bonnie Edwards that on Christmas Eve there will be three services, 9:30 am, 4:00 pm, and 11:30 pm. She also reported that the praise music will require a CCLI License Extension for streaming purposes. The cost is \$159. Carol Boyles moved and Harlan Stephens seconded the motion to approve the expenditure. It was determined that the payment should come out of the Zona White fund.
7. Congregational Representatives Becky Fisher and Carol Boyles that they've received complaints about people wanting to volunteer and never being contacted. It was decided that an "I would be

Interested” form would be included in the bulletin and The Call for people to indicate their interest in volunteering for certain jobs.

8. Pastor Erin Erin Erickson reported on the Visitation Program. She also told us about historical church videos from Scott Olson. She reported that her MID interview passed, but that the committee was concerned about the fact that she was giving communion.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Carpet Cleaning Patti Arneson reported that she received three bids for cleaning the carpets:
 - a. Paramount \$2,429
 - b. Menkins \$2,677
 - c. Service Master \$2,400.

A motion was made by Carol Boyles and seconded by Patti Arneson to give the contract to Paramount. Motion approved.

2. Cinnamon Hill Window Installation 4We have not heard back from the requesting parties, so this item has been tabled.

NEW BUSINESS

1. A reminder that Department Chairs must be cognizant of the positions that need to be filled in their departments for 2024.
2. Susan Kelts reported that we have new medical equipment and she would be happy to give instructions on the use.

Devotions will be given by Harlan Stephens for the November meeting.

The next Board meeting will be November 21, 2023

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Eileen Rossow
Clerk