

KVCC Church Council Meeting Minutes

June 23, 2020

Present: Karen Glass, Elizabeth Davidson-Derr, Jimm Collin, John Sampson, Linda LaBarge, Dre Roebuck, Christopher Blaicher, Annie Scavo, Linda Bogardus, Ingrid Carman, Liz Jaques, Charlotte Lichtenburg, Naj Wikoff, and Deborah Mitchell.

Karen opened the meeting at 4:02 PM. Pastor John led the group in prayer.

The meeting minutes were reviewed from last month. Linda made a motion to accept the meeting minutes, and Ingrid seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Pastor's Report – June 23, 2020

Online Updates

- All recurring weekly church gatherings and meetings have been successfully moved to Zoom. I act as host and facilitator for all meetings except Faith and Issues.
 - Sunday Worship
 - Tuesday Evening Book Discussion Group
 - Wednesday and Friday Zoom Hang Outs
 - People of the Way Centering Prayer Group
 - Friday Prayer Group
 - Faith and Issues
- Dave Craig has been hired as our Zoom Administrator for Sunday morning worship, and is doing a great job! He is coming up to speed on how to run the meeting, and create content. He has a lot of technical experience that is helping him make positive suggestions on how we use Zoom to support worship.

Community Support

- No members of the community have yet approached me for support via the PDF.

Worship and Spiritual Development

- Weekly worship continues to be offered via Zoom with an average attendance of ~60 sessions joining.
- The Centering Prayer Group has decided to offer a morning meeting option – 6 days a week - for members of the group.
- Friday morning prayer group continues to meet via Zoom or outside in one of the members' yards, sharing prayers, concerns and joys of the community.
- Neighborhood House weekly worship has resumed via Skype.

Pastoral Support

- Provide ongoing pastoral support to the church community via Zoom, telephone and email.

Summer and Beyond

- Almost all summer music slots have been filled.
- Working with Lynn DeWalt and Amy Nelson to create a schedule of accompanists for the summer music season.
- Cancellation of the annual bazaar was announced to the congregation via email on May 12.
- Most weddings and memorial services have been canceled for the summer.

Other Items

- Attended the quarterly NY UCC Conference Board meeting on Saturday, June 13.
- Working with Larry Shipps to update the weekly donation email being sent to the congregation.
- Church Reopening Taskforce has submitted and received approval for initial opening steps related to the Church Office and Grounds from the Council. This will be shared with the congregation via email on June 25.
- The Pride Parade held on June 20 was a BIG success. Approximately 50 cars participated with representation of church members, friends, neighbors, and new friends from all around the area.

Church Garden – Susie Doolittle provided an amended proposal for the church garden. Revisions include reducing the number of crab trees to 2 rather than 3 and removing a dead pine tree. Naj made a motion to support the revised plan and Linda L. seconded the motion. A discussion was made and the motion passed. Planting will likely occur in the fall.

Treasurer's Report – Jimm provided the Council with the following documents: Income Statement Budget, General Ledger Expense Account, TD Ameritrade Statement, and Balance Sheet. Jimm also provided the council with the following information: Cash donations have decreased due to physical services being discontinued for a time. This year KVCC is at \$1,868 vs. \$3,199 last year. Total income this YTD is \$88,982 vs the same time period last year was \$80,094 (not including the bequest since that is really a non-operating item). Pledges this year are at \$47,361 vs. \$33,938 in 2019. Mission and Social Action Group is under the Ministry heading. The amount budgeted there is \$4,856 (none of which has been utilized to date). As far as Grounds - that is detailed in the Buildings & Grounds Section. Custodian Service is higher because Jerry submitted a bill earlier than he normally does so we have \$2,619 YTD vs \$40 last year. This is a timing difference. Same goes for snow removal - Jerry submitted his bill earlier this year than last year. \$2k was budgeted for Repairs and Maintenance for 2020. The Church expended \$2,258 for the Clock Project plus \$1,300 to Jerry Smith to extend the handicap parking. Plus minor items picked up at McDonough's Hardware store. Naj made a motion and Annie seconded the motion to accept the treasurer's report. The motion was passed.

Flower Committee: Charlotte said the Flower Committee with meeting later this week with the Mission and Social Justice Committee. The Flower Committee is also exploring reducing the amount of flowers presented throughout the church and using flower from our gardens.

Buildings & Grounds – Ingrid provided the council with the following updates on both Tom's and her behalf: a bid for the handicap parking renovation has been accepted (the handicap parking has been expanded, leveled, and graded); the dishwasher in the manse has been replaced; Tom has asked John Clark and his son to scrape and paint, fix rotten doors, replace rotten siding and paint the canopy over the office entrance; Tom is also working on fixing the door to the Van Santvoord Room so that it opens and closes properly; Tom has a new battery for the defibrillator and this will be tested to make sure it is working properly. Ingrid is also working on the flower beds by the Manse. She is looking for someone to replace her role on the grounds committee.

Mission and Social Action – Naj updated the council on the Mission and Social Action Committee. Naj would like to partner and collaborate with other KVCC committees. Naj addressed subjects such as Black Lives Matter and how we can be more sensitive to various social issues. One example would be to have a better understanding of shared language to use when talking about various social issues.

Worship Committee: Linda B. said the Worship Committee did not meet this past month, citing the numerous meeting around re-opening the church.

Finance Committee: Jimm said members of the Finance Committee have been communicating but did not meet in June. He expects the committee to meet in July.

Directory Update – Karen and Liz updated the council on progress they are making with the church directory. All KVCC names have been imported into the directory and what committees those individuals are on. The next step is to enter the Google addresses into the directory. Karen and Deborah have offered help to Liz with entering the data into the directory. A check will be made to ensure we have not omitted anyone. People can choose to add pictures or other information into the directory.

Opening of Sanctuary: The council reviewed and discussed the Church Re-opening Task Force's proposal to re-open the sanctuary. Elizabeth made a motion that we accept the ideas and guidelines of re-opening the church. Chris seconded the motion. The council was in favor and the motion was passed. The congregation will be made aware of the guidelines through an email from John which will be sent on Thursday.

Other Items:

Acknowledging Volunteer's Generosity: The council talked about ways in which we could begin to recognize the volunteer efforts of members of our congregation and various ways in which we could do this. Members of the council are asked to send a list of people they would like to recognize as volunteers to Karen who will compile a list. We will then have further discussion of how we could proceed with recognizing the many hours and various contributions volunteers have made to the church.

Chris made a request to move the meetings from 4 PM to 5 PM. The council agreed to move the time.

Dre made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:05 PM.

Next meeting is Tuesday, July 28th @ 5:00 PM via Zoom (4th Tuesday of the month)

Respectfully submitted, Deborah Mitchell