

**Columbia Congregational Church**  
**Church Council Meeting Minutes**  
**August 23, 2016**

**Attending:** Kathy Chapman (President), Polly Hinckley (Music/Historian), Arnold Hinckley, David Parmenter (Board of Finance), Doug Erickson (Trustee), Henry Beck, Jr. (Investment Committee), Debbie Bailey (Board of Christian Concern), Janice Knight (Deacons), Pastor Jamie Harrison.

Kathy called the meeting to order at 7:05

Pastor Jamie opened with a prayer.

**Pastor's Report:**

Pastor Jamie reported that he is happy to be serving in Betsey's absence. He has been on some pastoral visits.

**Accept minutes of previous meeting June 28, 2016**

Arnold made the motion to accept and Dave seconded. Henry Beck, Jr. abstained.  
The minutes were accepted.

**Treasurers report:** Dave Parmenter presented the report as Mark Smith was absent.

- YTD: we have a surplus of \$8,690.61
- Special collections have all been paid out.
- Dave made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and Arnold seconded.
- All present voted to accept the report.

**2016-2017 Budget:** Draft passed around. Dave Parmenter presented the budget. Expenses have decreased on heating oil giving the church a \$300 savings. The BCC asked for \$300 more in their budget. OCM asked for \$500 more in their budget. Dave asked for a motion to approve the budget as is and present it to the annual meeting on Sept. 18. Arnold seconded the motion and all approved.

**Finance Committee:** Dave Parmenter presented. There was a request for a new refrigerator out of the current year's budget which was granted. BCC had a funding request for \$1,000 for the monthly dinner at the Willimantic Baptist Soup Kitchen (not Coventry Soup Kitchen) and it was supplied from the Legacy money. Dave made a motion to use the money for this purpose and Henry seconded it. It was unanimously approved. Henry submitted a request for \$1,000 for the Quiet Corner Refugee Fund from the Legacy fund. Dave made a motion to approve and Arnold seconded it. It was unanimously approved.

**Legacy Committee:** Henry Beck Jr. gave the report and discussed three plates for the endowment plaque which are in the process of being cast.

**Trustees:** Doug Erickson said that some repair work was being done on the parsonage while Pastor Betsey was away.

**Website Update:** presented by Dave Parmenter said that the website has been updated. The Crop Walk for Oct. 2 information is now on the website.

**Nominating Committee:** Church Clerk: Kathy Chapman reported that Katie Christenson has resigned and the church is in need of a replacement.

**Subcommittee:** 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary met with five initial members. They are not officially a committee as of yet but Henry made a motion to make it the Anniversary Committee. Janice seconded it and it was approved by all present.

**Annual Meeting:** A call was made by Kathy Chapman for an annual meeting on September 18<sup>th</sup> 2016 after the service. Polly made a motion to approve and Arnold seconded.

**Fellowship Hour:** Janice Knight made a presentation about making Fellowship Hour a ministry with budget funding to cover food expenses. Currently loaves and fishes does an inadequate job with a hit or miss effort. Janice suggested \$600 a year (this amounts to about \$11.50/week) for food to be purchased and placed out for Fellowship Hour. Arnold made a motion to approve and Polly seconded. Janice will request funds from the Finance Committee. We may also have to create a Hospitality Committee.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.**

**Minutes submitted by Janice Knight**