

Columbia Congregational Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes
June 28, 2016

Attending: Kathy Chapman (President), Polly Hinckley (Music/Historian), Arnold Hinckley, Mark Smith (Treasurer), David Parmenter (Board of Finance), Tim Anderson (Trustee), John Polglase (Board of Christian Concerns), Andrea Stannard (Member at Large), Janice Knight (Deacons), Deb Bailey (Board of Christian Ed), Pastor Betsey Polglase

Kathy called the meeting to order at 7:04.

Pastor Betsey opened with prayer

Pastor's Report:

1. Signed agreement with Rev. Dr. Jamie Harrison for Pastor Betsey's sabbatical time is on file with Denise Howie, Mark Smith, Kathy Chapman and Pastor Betsey. Pastor Betsey will check with Jamie about dates he would like to be paid.
2. Krista Lambdin join the church on Sunday 6/26/16. Keith has since shown interest in joining.
3. She is planning on taking her second vacation week July 11-17. Because of her timeout because of pneumonia and knee surgery she will not take the final two weeks.
4. Regional Minister Rev. Tom Clough has agreed to come to worship on Nov. 20 as part of the celebration of 300 years since the Ecclesiastical Society was formed. Actual 300 anniversary will be celebrated 2020 when first minster was called and first services took place.
5. Reminder Annual Reports of committees and Boards are due in August.

Accept minutes of previous meeting May 24, 2016

Correction to minutes:

- 1) Mark Smith listed twice in Attendees
- 2) At 8c - Henry Beck, Jr. inserted paragraphs into the agreement; Rev. Jamie offered to come out to do an official signing.

Minutes accepted as corrected. Janice, Deb and Andrea abstained.

Treasure's report – Mark Review the Treasurer's report.

1. There was discussion about who or what committee was responsible for the Veterans of the Cross offering. Some thought it belonged to BOCC. Pastor Betsey agreed to check with CT Conference as to where the "Veterans of the Cross" collection should be sent and submit a check request.
2. Pastor Betsey will contact Henry Beck, Jr. regarding application of funds received in memory of Henry Beck, Sr.
3. Arnold motioned to accept minutes, John seconded.

2016-2017 budget – Finance Committee David Parmenter

1. With current pledges only short \$3,000 to balance budget. Budget includes the anticipated increase in CT Conference dues.
2. There was conversation around the use of Legacy Endowment available funds. Kathy inquired about getting fans for the sanctuary during the heat of summer. Terry asked about using funds to pay for the Society's annual gathering. David said he has another request but the Committee hasn't had time to review it in order to bring it to the Council.
3. The budget will be ready by August meeting – no need for Council to meet in July

Town Land Transfer – Agreement has been signed by Kathy (Church president), Carmen Vance (First Selectman), and Paula (Town Planner).

Stewardship – Terry

Current total pledges \$127,790.

Nominating - Terry

Katie Christenson (Church Clerk) is expecting her second child in July. She is willing to continue but will need coverage in this next year.

Merton Wolff will be a Member at Large

Kathy asked that Denise Howie contact anyone receiving Certified Mail so they are sure to get it in a timely fashion.

Kathy had a church wood cutout that was from the Plainfield church anniversary.

300th Anniversary advisory committee – Kathy, Andrea, and Pastor Betsey.

There were several suggestions of others to consult, one of which was Walt Woodward, state historian and Columbia resident interested in the history of this town . We will meet in July.

Charities of Hope request – tabled last month. Kathy tried to contact them but never heard back. We have dismissed their request to put a clothes collecting bin near the church.

Arnold moved to adjourn at 8:10

Next meeting will be August 23, barring any unforeseen issues coming up to warrant a July meeting.

Respectfully Submitted.

Pastor Betsey Polglase for Katie Christenson, clerk