

Community Congregational Church of Clinton Heights UCC
Board of Deacons/Council Meeting
Minutes of January 10, 2024

Meeting called to order on Zoom at 7:51 pm.

Members Present: Tom P, Brian F, Nicole F, Bob H, Bruce G, Julie K, Tina K, Joanne B

Members Absent: Cindy M, Elaine W, Tracey P

Opening Prayer was said by Bruce.

The Secretary's Report was read by all. Julie made a motion to approve it. It was seconded by Tina. The motion was carried.

The Council Financial Secretary's Report was reviewed by all. Bruce made a motion to approve it. Julie seconded it. The motion was carried.

The Council Treasurer's Report was reviewed by all. . Joanne motioned to approve the report. Brian seconded it. The motion was carried.

The Deacons' Treasurer's Report was reviewed and approved as shown. However, there was a discrepancy in the monthly balance, which did not match the bank's statement. Tina will review them.

There was no Visitation/Elder Conversation Report because Tracey is not at the meeting.

Advent/Holiday Worship Plans: The event passed successfully.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Fellowship Hour/Coffee Hour will continue to be held after services on the second Sunday of the month. We may want to increase the frequency once the weather gets better.

The sign in front of the church will be updated again for Easter.

Tom sent emails to Ricoh to inquire about supplying us with toner for the printer but has had no response. Since our contract with them expired in September, Tom will check with Staples to see how much their toner will cost.

(Supply Lists: Ricoh.com and Staples.com)

Tom placed reflectors at the lawn edge of the parking area for the snowplow operator.

We need to table discussion about the Deacon's budget because Elaine was going to do it but she is not at the meeting this month.

Due to her schedule, Nicole has not had time to work on the Google Docs. If anyone else knows how to set it up, they are welcome to do so.

Bible study started January 10, 2024 at 6:30 on Zoom and went well.

Joanne will remind everyone in the Spring when the Military Care Packages will resume to be sent by her daughter, Amy.

NEW BUSINESS:

Brian updated us on Lifesong, the group that is willing to work with us. He reminded us they do not want to do just cleaning, but they would like to do landscaping, repairs, cooking and perhaps some light cleaning. In return, they may want to use our facility for meetings or movie nights. Brian will contact Scott who runs Lifesong in our area to get a couple dates they are available to meet with some of the Leadership team to discuss what we would like done and what they need. Tom brought up that he is currently responsible for the maintenance of the lawn equipment. If other people use them, he will no longer want to be responsible for them. We will discuss this further after we meet with Lifesong.

Rev Kenny Watson Sr. has asked to become or dedicated Reverend. This should not impact our budget but we would like to meet with him to ascertain what he is expecting from us. Is he willing to continue being a supply pastor? Perhaps we will have a 6-month or a year "probation period". It was brought up that he preaches Baptist, which he is. We may want more UCC Lectionary included in the sermons. Bruce will speak with Rev Kenny to see if we can meet after church on January 21 or 28 to discuss everything, including the PowerPoint presentation.

Someone came to the church Parsonage regarding our ability to provide housing for a family whose house burned down. Tom spoke with them and advised that the parsonage is currently occupied. He will get back to them after our meeting tonight. We discussed that although the church does have a kitchen and a bathroom, it is not zoned for occupancy. Perhaps they can contact the Red Cross for assistance. (They have been contacted)

Tina received a notice from UCC about a special meeting coming up. Bob H. is very familiar with the meetings; he is our representative. He also receives the notifications and he will attend if he is able.

Tina entered the last couple month's financial figures to the 2024 budget. Tom will send the final budget out to everyone to review. Once everyone gives their approval, we can set up a congregational meeting for their approval.
(Budget sent 1/15/24)

The elevator slack test should be done every odd year, however, it was not done in 2023. The last time it was done by Bay State Elevator, it cost hundreds of dollars. Otis took over Bay State and they want to charge us \$2680.00. We have a contract with Otis which we pay every six months but they have never been at the church for anything. Julie said she would review her paperwork to see if she has a contact at Otis. (Email sent to Otis. After investigating past budgets and expenses discovered we paid only 655.10 in 2019)

Community Outreach:

Plans to join the Townwide Easter Egg Hunt. We will discuss this further when everyone is in attendance.

Reminders:

Our next meeting will be February 14, 2024.

DOM for January is Elaine, February is Brian.

Tina made the motion to adjourn the meeting at: 8:54. Tom seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Boel, Secretary