



Council Meeting Minutes

Date: July 17, 2018

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: Chapel

Members: Gene Armstong, Moderator Barbara Metric, Clerk
 Carl Nauert Lily Alter
 Mike Espinoza (E) Priscilla Sibley (E)
 Marcia Ashton Dan Pietrini (E)
 Melinda Haag (E) Steve Pederson (E)
 Janet Haisman (E) Cate Reading
 Jamie Shamhart (E) Chase Gentile (E)
 Alissa Lonergan Paul Raducha

Staff: Rev. Deborah Kapp Alicia Reese
 Rev. Lydia Mulkey Amanda Swanson

Guests: Jackie Eckholm

Moderator Gene Armstrong called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm with a quorum present.

I. Opening Devotion and Prayer – Barbara Metric

Barbara shared her devotion where she stated she is mad. Mad at the 10-year anniversary of her Dad's death, mad about Trump, mad about how dumb bunnies have their babies in yards with dogs. Does God have a plan? How can this be his plan? What about Free Will - we are responsible for our decisions. We can't ask God to fix things because then we'd have to blame him for the bad things. So it's ok to be mad, because that means we also get to feel love, joy, happiness, and gratitude for what God created.

II. Joys, Concerns, and Remembrances

The service for Wing Leong was joyful. Janet Haisman fell; she is ok, but shaken and taking it easy for a few days before her trip to Italy. Carl's nephew Jim has a new job! Marcia just returned from a fabulous trip to Arches National Park with her 9 year old grandson. Alissa mentioned her son Colin was in Urinetown (it was amazing!) and her son Sean got a summer job in Boston.

III. Omnibus Motion

Action: A motion by Barbara Metric to accept the following meeting minutes and membership report was seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

- Council Meeting minutes - June 22, 2018
- Membership Report - June 2018

IV. Financial Reports – Jackie Eckholm

Midyear 2018 financials are almost ready. 75% of pledges are on time; Finance is going to follow up with 10 pledges to see when they will be paying (and how – quarterly, all at once, etc) and a pledge report should be submitted soon to keep Council apprised. One Great Hour of Sharing is at \$0 on the Sources and Uses as Maureen has moved it to restricted funds (\$5355). 4th Sunday offerings are down significantly. Jackie recommended FIA promote them more, Council suggested on 4th Sundays a representative of the organization always speak as that personal connection/testimonial is important; it shouldn't fall to the pastor to announce. Deborah offered to raise at next FIA meeting. Maureen and Doug are going through all restricted accounts – those with no activity since 2014 they are looking to eliminate but searching for 'owners' of accounts before doing that. Goal is to know what each acct is for/what is the use. Bernstein accounts: the market is volatile: once a quarter the endowment committee meets with an investment advisor to stay on top of things. 2019 Budget planning has begun.

V. Staff Reports

Lydia – FUSH Work Camp was a success. Vespers are underway! Fall planning is happening.

Alicia – She is requesting 1-1 meetings to get to know congregation better. Requesting Council meet with her too!

VI. Personnel - PTO (Paid Time Off)

Gene is meeting with Staff that would be affected by the possible change from a vacation and sick day policy to a Paid Time Off policy. Plan is to go over Personnel's report showing possible PTO plan at August meeting. Personnel is not recommending one over the other, just offering options.

VII. Building & Grounds

Masonry is 100% complete! Roofer update: they are working on gutters and installing slate next week, weather permitting. Scaffolding is up in the Sanctuary! Everything was covered, and plaster was repaired. Start painting this week. 1 area of concern had some rotten wood, investigating. While scaffolding is up, cleaning inside of windows. Paint color for Sanctuary was chosen. August 31 is expected completion date, as Sept 9 is Gathering Day and Sept 22 there is a wedding. Huge thank you to member Christine Bohlman for all of her work on the grounds keeping – it looks fabulous. This Sunday: recognition of Patrick Guinan and Joan White for their many years of service to First United.

VIII. Moderator Update

Gene named Council reps for the PNC: Priscilla Sibley and Dan Pietrini. Megan Lewis has agreed to chair the Committees Task Force, and is working to ask members to join. Art Spooner is contemplating leading the Government Task Force. Looking for a charge for both task forces that will reflect the objective of the Strategic plan. Gene also shared the change in the Prime rate will affect our interest rate on the margin loan. As Council signs up for Elder on Duty responsibilities, please plan on arriving at 9:15. There is a binder in the desk, and suggestion is to get the bulletin as it has a lot of information. Also make sure you put up the listing of where Sunday School classes are, as that is the number one question asked. Mainly, BE VISIBLE! Council: please consider attending Vespers. Per Capita: it's important Council show leadership and pay this important fee. This Sunday there is a Newcomers class at 9:00 am, Council is requested to attend to vote on

membership; it's summer, so likelihood that we won't have a quorum and will need to do e-vote for membership. Deborah's contract expires August 31, 2018 so at the August meeting we will vote on her extension. The PNC is off to a great start ("really cooking with gas") and Gene is pleased with how well they are working together.

IX. Centennial Celebration

Marcia Ashton gave a detailed update of the Centennial Celebration. There will be a picnic the Sunday after Gathering Day with a Brown Cow Sundae bar. Need coordinators for the picnic, looking for families to help. There will be a showcase with lots of acts! Clarification to Council's June minutes: this is not a collaboration with the Nursery School. Marcia has asked Council members to contribute poetry to celebration.

X. Committee Updates

Marcia on behalf of the Communications committee: discussion about Church signage, feeling is it's not significant enough out front on Lake Street, and that proper signage is needed. It will be an investment.

Montgomery Lawsuit: no update since May.

Barbara will send out Committee Liaison assignments prior to August meeting. Please confirm who is the Chair of the committee you are the liaison for.

XI. Adjournment and Closing Prayer

Cate Readling moved to adjourn at 8:28pm (not a typo!). The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. Deborah Kapp led the closing prayer as Council gathered at the front of the Chapel.

Next scheduled Council meeting: August 21, 2018 at 7:00 pm in the Chapel, New Council members meet at 6pm for Elder Training on Financials.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Metric, Clerk

Additional upcoming dates:

Sunday Sept 9:	Gathering Day, first day back in Sanctuary!
Saturday December 8, 9am-12:	Council Budget Workshop
Sunday January 27:	Annual Meeting and Lunch
Sunday May 19:	Congregational Meeting for election and church picnic