

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES (On Zoom + in person)
April 10, 2024

Members present: **Phil Garwood (chairman), Pastor Mauren Juliao, Joan Anastasio, Pat McKee, Jaye Trimm, Kay Gregory, Judy Meserve, Vicki Record, Kitty Cogley and Patsy Tessier,**

Joys and Concerns were shared.

Opening prayer.

The Secretary's report from February 21, 2024 was reviewed and approved with one change.

Ministry Reports:

Trustees: Dwight has gone to the safety deposit box to organize it and has added recent documents.

Sunday School/Bible Study: No report

Community Suppers: Finance Committee will be providing the meal in May. In April, there were 15 people served and 12 meals sent home. Pam hopes to meet with the coordinators to see about changing the schedule to exclude holidays that fall on the first Sunday of the month. There is currently \$11 in the Community Supper fund.

Lay Leader: No report.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Mauren reported that Reverend Angela is on vacation until 4/22. She said she enjoyed the recent retreat she was able to attend. She also requested that, in regards to email, if she is missing something to please let her know.

SPRC: Pam is the new chair. There is nothing to report as they haven't met yet.

Worship Committee: Nothing to report.

UM Men: Phil reported the breakfast scheduled for 3/23 was cancelled. The next one will be 4/13. Kay asked Phil to ask at that breakfast for volunteers to help at the Mechuwana supper.

UM Women/ United Women in Faith: Heather and Connie have agreed to be co-presidents. Judy will remain secretary and Lynda will remain treasurer. The group will hold a potluck supper 5/15 at 5:00pm.

Caring Team: Sandy batten was unable to attend the meeting tonight. Sandy Nisbet is going to the Gardiner Alzheimer Center to entertain 4/12. On 5/13 he and the group are going to see Joan Cumming for her 90th birthday. The April mission will be Mechuwana with the funds designated to the storm damage repair. The committee continues to send cards and make phone calls.

Parish Report: Pat discussed the Vision meeting being held Sunday ahead of the next Coaching session. The committees are concentrating on going deeper, rather than wider, in the community. The focus will be on the demographics of the area – the over 65 age group. Looking to bring in older people and their needs. How do we reach them? Hope to brainstorm during the visioning team meeting. Need a way to connect with them.

Pastor Mauren let us know that the Vision Statement for the Parish is *“committed to creating currents of connection to build a more loving community”*. They’re hoping to connect to other churches. For example: the recent Easter Party where folks from different churches were here to help set up. The Soup Saturdays – working to bring people together. This gives us a chance to get to know people in other churches. The next Soup Saturday will be in Pittston.

Stewardship & Finance: The next meeting will be April 23rd. The information for May Baskets will be going out soon. There will be no need for others to donate candy or plants.

Easter party costs were discussed. Some people made purchases and should be reimbursed.

** There was a motion made to set aside up to \$300 from the Robinson Fund to cover any expenses related to the Easter Party. The motion was seconded and approved.

Pat made a request to be able to use the church debit card to purchase US postage stamps and items at Staples rather than paying for those item through reimbursement. This would make the process more streamlined. She would also like to put the copier monthly payment on autopay through the debit card.

** A motion was made to authorize the use of the debit card for two specific instances: at the Post Office for stamps and mailings and at Staples. This was seconded and approved.

** A second motion was made to authorize putting the monthly costs for the office copier on the debit card. This was seconded and approved.

Pat mentioned the heat in Fellowship Hall has not been turned down on several occasions. She will mention it to the groups using the Hall.

There is currently \$6,696.97 in the church checking account – there will be \$2300 coming out in the next week to cover payroll and bills.

Benevolence: There is currently \$532.13 in the account.

Old Business:

1. **Removal of Front Pew:** The Trustees are not in favor of doing this without a more convincing argument as to why this needs to be done. Vicki will draft a letter of response.

New Business:

1. **How to handle snow days going forward?:** The day of the Palm Sunday service there was a storm. Desmond Parker was coming up from Wells to preach. Ralph was unable to get out of his driveway and cancelled the service. Unfortunately, Vicki was unable to contact Reverend Parker and he came up. Vicki hopes the group will come together to make the decision to cancel service in case of weather in a more timely manner.
2. **Bridge Closing this summer:** The Gardiner Randolph bridge to be closed one way most of the summer. There will be issues with sharing the pastors/lay readers because of this. This concern will be brought to the attention of the Parish Group

Next meeting: To be determined.