



Plymouth

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

DEACONS

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Attendance:

Yes	No		Yes	No	
■		Peg Birk (2020)	■		Brian Siska (2018), <i>Clerk</i>
■		Pat Born (2018)		■	Jim van Iwaarden (2019), <i>Treasurer</i>
	■	Ed Curtiss (2019)	■		Greg Zoidis (2019)
■		Katie Dillon (2018)	■		Beth Faeth, <i>Transitional Minister for Congregational Care</i>
■		Claire Kolmodin (2020), <i>Moderator</i>	■		Paula Northwood, <i>Minister for Spiritual Formation</i>
■		Catherine Shreves (2020)			

GUESTS: None

Actions Taken:

Item 1. Minutes of the previous meeting electronically approved.

Item 2. Motion was approved to adopt the recommendation of the Board of Finance and Administration to use the line of credit to pursue an exterior lighting project.

Item 3. Motion was approved to support the ordination of Jennifer Eagleman, who was taken into discernment last year.

Item 4. Motion approved to bring Beth Faeth before the congregation at a special meeting on April 15th for approval to be called into ministry at Plymouth.

Agenda and Minutes:

Opening Meditation

Catherine read a passage by W.E.B. DuBois from *A Grateful Heart*.

Report of the Ministers

Worship attendance has been low in January, possibly due to weather and winter vacations. The chapel service continues to be well attended.

Some people are getting impatient with the transition process, but the Transition Task Force continues to move their work along.

A committee has been created to plan Philip's 50th anniversary celebration.

Jim Gertmenian will preach on April 29th, Legacy Sunday.

Discussed Seth's desire to be licensed by the UCC to administer sacraments. Agreed that while we want to support Seth's ordination process and acknowledge his role as a key member of our team, we would not be pursuing his licensure at this time.

Elze Academy will begin operations in our education wing on February 1. The lease has been signed.

The Board of Worship has found direction by working with the results of the CAT survey.

Report of the Moderator

Claire has received a lot of positive comments about our direction recently.

The nominating process for Deacon and Board vacancies has begun. Discussed the process for soliciting self-nominations.

The Board of Children, Youth and Families has invited the Deacons to attend the family potluck on March 11th. Discussed asking for a different date when more Deacons could attend.

Report of the Treasurer

No report.

Annual Governance Agenda

Discussed the need to create an agenda that fulfills the requirements placed on the Deacons by the governance system. Brian agreed to fine tune the work that has been done.

Update on the Transition Planning Task Force

The task force presented to the Leadership Council and received helpful input. They also met with the congregation after church on January 28th, and the response to their preliminary recommendation was very positive.

Discussed the process of bringing in an interim minister. We agreed that it was not the intent of the bylaws that interim ministers go through a call process. Also agreed that the logic behind considering this position as hired and not called must be well communicated to the congregation.

Other Matters

Rick Neville presented a proposal from the Board of Finance and Administration to use the line of credit for a project to make exterior lighting more efficient and cost effective conditional upon our receiving rebates from Xcel Energy. Motion was approved to adopt the recommendation of the Board of Finance and Administration to use the line of credit to pursue this project.

Motion was approved to support the ordination of Jennifer Eagleman, who was taken into discernment last year.

As part of our governance process, The Deacons meet with the clergy annually to review their employment agreements. The Personnel Committee has recommended that this include Paula and Beth.

Executive Session

Motion approved to bring Beth Faeth before the congregation at a special meeting on April 15th for approval to be called into ministry at Plymouth. Over the next two months, we will create opportunities for the congregation to meet Beth and get to know her better.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, March 6, 6:30 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Brian Siska, Clerk*