

# St. Mark United Methodist Church

## Church Council Meeting Minutes

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**Date:** October 22, 2023    **Time:** 12:30 pm    **Location:** Room 111

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### In attendance:

1. Rev. Carolyn Stephens
2. Karen Hannula
3. Joel Black
4. Kathy Fazenbaker
5. Lilly Berrios
6. Eric Steverson
7. Robert Gilleo
8. Mary Abbott Waite
9. Tracy McArthur
10. Deana Hilton
11. Michael Prudent
12. Rex Burrus
13. Powell Jones
14. Paul Winslow
15. Abby Parrish
16. Luke Murphy
17. Hayden MacArthur
18. Susan Ray
19. Sheila Stephens
20. Greg Washington (Virtual)

- The **October 2023** meeting of the **Church Council** was held in person in Room 111 on October 22, 2023. Lilly Berrios, Chair of the SPRC, Presided.
- The meeting was Called to Order at 12:33pm by **Lilly Berrios**.
- **Rev. Stephens** led the council in prayer.

### MOTION

- Joel Black made a motion to **ACCEPT** the minutes subject to adding the meeting packet as a link from the website, references the packet made available to the public.
- Karen Hannula seconded.
  - Motion passed unanimously.

## **MOTION:**

- Joel Black made a motion to **ACCEPT** the called evotes.
- Kathy Fazenbaker seconded.
  - MOTION passed unanimously.

## **REPORTS**

### **Ministries**

- Karen Hannula proposed that the residents of Wiggins House sign a document that outlines our expectations of the residents.
- Mike Smith is waiting on a letter to be approved by Pastor Carolyn in support of our Jewish neighbors.
- Prime Time active has been really active since its initiation.
- Spoke to Frank Wren to see if he has budget to make the 12 Step Program room more comfortable.
  - Made a request for finances; only \$200 received
  - Use missions budget for 12 Step Room if not allocated.
  - Pastor Carolyn noted that she will speak to Viveca about donations and needs for coats.
- Powell Jones will contribute \$1000 towards 12 Step Room.
  - Susan Ray noted that advising the cause could get you more money.

### **Fine Arts**

- Refer to report from Phil Crumbly. ([Meeting Packet Link](#))
- Strategy for Interim Director of Fine Arts.
- Job description for Interim worked on Choir Council
- Job description for full time Director of Fine Arts
- Pastor Carolyn will check on using the title of Minister vs. Director.
- Powell asked what the Minister implications is.
- Robert Gilleo reported that dumpsters were filled with stuff that didn't need to be in the church anymore.
- Noey and Sheri donated stickers that have the Pride flag and will be placed on every door that say everybody is welcome here.
- Food ministry has been going well. Feeding 90 at each setting.
- Viveca has made appeals to the congregation for donations to the closet.
- Freshpoint continues to donate fruit.
- Beefing up 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday breakfast club volunteers.
- Reverend Josh Myles coming to look at our closet and program.
- Bob Brown report updated on Saint Mark at Home groups.
- Tracy reported that part of the youth listening sessions was to be more engaged in worship.
- Readers second and fourth Sundays Youth and Young Adults

## Grants & Naming Catalog

- Suggested that we have more handicapped spots.
- Naming catalog – what is a naming catalog
  - It is a list of opportunities for the congregation to give a specific dollar amount for a capital project and have it named after the donor.
- New windows in Fine Arts room could be repaired and donated in memory of or in honor of.
- New rubber mats on the playground.
- REFER TO Paul's report ([Meeting Packet Link](#))
- Sheila – knowing what is imperative for what is asking to donate.

## MOTION:

- **Joel Black** made a motion to empower Paul Winslow and the committee to continue with the naming catalog research and ideas.
- **Tracy McArthur** seconded.
  - Passed unanimously.

## Grants

- Grants that support Saint Mark's projects. Money follows ministries.
- Hired a grant consultant.
- Donors look does it fit our vision?
- Specific causes.
- Ongoing – not thrilled with new projects.
- Are we contributing to the project?
- Asking the church council to determine a project list to be fully funded.
- Is capital available?
  - Are we going to spend anything on bathrooms, i.e.?
- Discussion ensued. ([Full Recording Link here](#))

## Endurability

- North Wall at least two weeks behind
- Quality Control
- Bridge – Connector
  - Doors are installed.
  - Maglock access been installed.
  - Reader – existing cards can be used
  - Hallway to be scheduled on Tuesday, October 24, 2023
  - Flooring the week of the 30<sup>th</sup>
  - Chapel doors need to be trimmed to accommodate the new flooring.
  - Tile floor to be installed to the bridge
  - Handicap parking spots closer to the bridge. Believe it's 4 spots.

## Listening Sessions Update

- Pastor Carolyn Stephens reported:
- Going through and answering questions.
- Noey Barrera-Disler has started working and sending questions out to different people who can answer.
- When will the questions be posted in the Remarks?
  - This Wednesday questions will be added to Remarks and some answered in the Senior Pastor note.
- Financial questions to Mark Woods
- Michael Prudent – formalized way of responding.
- Better understanding of what is being asked and how to respond to questions.
- Simplifying methods
- Discussion ensued. ([Full Recording Link here](#))

**Task Force** to handle communications; contact members that have not been here in a while or have made it known that they are not coming back?

- Who do they want to hear from?
- What changes do they want to see at Saint Mark?
- Task Force to help us move forward?
- What would it take to get people back?
- Plan forward – Define a path forward.

## MOTION

- Tracy McArthur made a motion to create two task forces with the with the responsibility of identifying challenges today and coming up with the path forward for communications and the uniqueness and destination church. One is communications and the second one is to continue the uniqueness and destination Church of Saint mark identifying a facilitator to help recommend a path forward and identify what differentiates Saint Mark and enhance it.
- Kathy Fazenbaker seconded the motion.
- Motion passed unanimously.

Time Frame:

- 4 people to serve on Task Force.
- Attach to Listening Sessions questions/answers and we have heard you.
- Task Force, facilitator, would you like to participate in these?
- Send your name to Robert.

One Church Council

- Option to do hybrid.
- Can we meet monthly vs. bi-monthly?
- Set up a separate meeting to discuss the One Church Council – Lilly will follow up with Amber and Mitch

- Communications and Uniqueness – create a task force
- Ministries Committee

### **Ministries**

- Looking for an interim Organist, Director Fine Arts.
- Rude emails to church staff is not acceptable.
- Thank the church staff for what they do.
- William has retired again.
  - Replacement – Matthew

### **Financials**

- Comments Report from Mark – Refer to [\(Meeting Packet Link\)](#)
- Concerning – non pledged 20% drop compared to last year in September
- Non pledged – pledge cards, non-pledged identifiable gifts,

### **Trustees**

- Tracy – refer to Trustees Report [\(Meeting Packet Link\)](#)
- Request from Endurability

### **MOTION**

- Lily Berrios made the following motion.
- Request to use the Juniper Capital fund the total of \$9337.39 to address plumbing and electrical for the 1947 roof drains and lighting.
- Joel Black seconded.
- Motion passed unanimously.

MOVED TO EXECUTIVE