

Plymouth Congregational Church UCC - Council Meeting 02/09/19 – Saturday

***Go-to-Meeting online (due to snowstorm)***

**Present:** Bing Tso (Moderator); Sue Maul (Vice-Moderator); Mike Pierson; Debbie Baden (Secretary); Elizabeth Gordon; Kyna Shilling; Christine Hanson; Joan Griswold; Matt Durland; Karen Clark; Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown; Rev. Steve Davis

**Absent:** Ruth Williamson; Cindy Anderson

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**Called to Order** – 09:38 AM (Go-to-Meeting online)

**Opening prayer** – Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

**Check-in:** All – (Snow stories)

**Review of agenda:** Bing Tso, Moderator

- Reminder to give each other space & during this conference call to not talk over each other

Bing presented matrix work plan for Plymouth Council & meeting schedule for the year (2019-2020)

- Requested that Council members think about what they would like to take a lead on for the year.
  - Highlights include: 150 Plymouth Church Anniversary planning & celebration

Planning for Budget this year:

- Recommended to start talking about budget priorities in June and making some updates to how we do the annual pledges and campaign.
  - Question: how is Simple Church affecting giving patterns? Rev. Steve Davis said this is part of conversations that he is having with Kyna Shilling (2019 Budget Chairperson). We are looking at trends that occurred this past year.
  - Kyna Shilling spoke to possibly shifting our budgeting process and the time of year we hold our stewardship campaign.
  - Movement towards a year-round Stewardship program? Kyna mentioned that we could begin groundwork for a shift to a different giving-campaign season (outside of the traditional Fall schedule).
  - Kyna Shilling is planning on continuing as 2020 Budget Chairperson.
  - Some discussion regarding the make-up of a Budget Committee and how they might do more future planning that encompass more than one year at a time.
  - Matt Durland volunteered to be included with the long-term budget discussion. He is planning on discussing with Plymouth Youth Forum.
- Committee, Board Oversight (on Matrix)
    - Investment Committee: Council-appointed group
    - Finance Committee: Council-appointed group

- Reminder that we need a Council liaison for Finance Committee (Madeline Beery was the liaison)
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- Discussion on how to strengthen Council connections with these Committees and the people serving on them. (Bing Tso will report back to Council)
  - Per Sue Maul, can this be an action step?
  - Bing Tso & Rev Steve Davis: suggested that we can have a discussion at the March Council meeting/Leadership Retreat

Leadership & how Council can help with Plymouth Committees' communications & accountability.

- Having a template or outline for Committees to record minutes
  - The church website has a template. It has been used inconsistently.
- Rev Steve Davis mentioned that Diane Jacobsen (office) is not consistently receiving meeting minutes from church Committees.
- Current Communication network flow chart (presented by Elizabeth Gordon): on screen
  - Reminder of what we have seen in the past few months.
- Agenda item for Leadership Retreat (March meeting)
  - Church Council needs to be transparent & visible, too.

-----Break-----

Status check on agenda & how to cover items in time remaining

Leadership Retreat planning discussion regarding Leadership Retreat

- Inviting people to DREAM with us

Bing Tso – need for Human Resources and a plan for how Council can make it happen and what the Council

- Possibilities of potential consultants suggested: Diane Jacobsen & Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown have done some very basic research.
- Resources within Plymouth: former HR Committee members may be helpful in identifying some potential organizations

In the interest of time, Bing did a quick overview of the remaining Council Action Plan/Matrix

- See updated draft of matrix

Elizabeth Gordon: Introduction to her Ordination process and need for Council to approve her recommendation for Ordination in the UCC

- She feels a Call to Mental Health Chaplaincy and Ministry
- Specifically to Military /Veteran's Administration (VA)
- Elizabeth presented some of her documents to the Council

Elizabeth is requesting that the Council approve and support her in Ordination process.

**Motion – to approve Elizabeth Gordon for Ordination process.**

Moved by Mike Pierson

2<sup>nd</sup> – Sue Maul

M/S/P

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Rev. Steve Davis: report on Sound system update & Recommendation

- Reviewed the TommySound estimate: \$52,000
- Includes details (on TommySound Inc.'s Proposal 1017 – 02/06/19)
- Would be funded off-budget: there are funds in building reserve funds.
- Installation would be completed by Easter 2019 (without any unforeseen circumstances)

**Motion to approve funding of TommySound Inc.'s proposal.**

Moved by Joan Griswold

2<sup>nd</sup> – Kyna Shilling

M/S/P

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150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration: Rev. Steve Davis

- Committee is being put together: Core Planning Team
    - Council: Mike Pierson & Karen Clark
    - Members: Nancy Parker, Catie Wilson; Peggy Corley;
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Meriwether & Consultants Proposal Letter

Rev. Steve Davis is signing to commit \$25,000 consulting fee.

June Council Meeting: Meriwether will present findings

Congregation presentation will be scheduled some time after that

Budget Financials reviewed (2018)

- Rev. Steve Davis shared that we have ended the year (2018) 'fairly well' with a surplus.

Security / Parking

- Need to have wiring completed professionally (for cameras). Titan Electrics
- Cameras should be up and in-place sooner
- Emergency preparedness training: Rev. Steve Davis has been in-conversation with Homeland Security and Seattle Police Department (regarding active shooter)
- Plymouth Parking garage pay boxes are being installed soon.

- Plymouth parking decals (Doves) will be distributed for use by Members with a parking code (for use for reduced-fee parking). More information to come.
- Need for communication with groups to be aware of structure: part of the 'next-step-plan'

**Leadership Retreat: Saturday, 03/09/19** (9:30 AM – 4:00 PM). Email will be sent in next couple of weeks with details. The day will include potluck lunch & snacks.

**Plymouth Church UCC – 02/10/19 (tomorrow)** Sunday 10:30 AM Service will only be broadcast on Zoom, FB & streaming. Due to snow & ice, Plymouth Church building is closed.

**2019 Plymouth Church Council meeting schedule:**

Each meeting, unless otherwise noted, is slated to run from 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. on that Saturday.

- February 9: Virtual/online meeting (due to snow)
- March 9: Leadership retreat –Council & Boards/Committees: times above
- April 13
- May 11
- June 8
- *NO JULY MEETING*
- August 10
- September 14
- October 12
- November 9
- *NO DECEMBER MEETING*

Prayed-out by Rev. Steve Davis

Adjourned at 12:00 noon

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Baden,

Council Secretary 2019