

**United Church of Chapel Hill
Church Council Meeting, November 26, 2019
Meeting Minutes**

| | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| X | Gaylen Brubaker, Moderator | X | Millie Brobston, Youth & Young Adults |
| X | Melanie Joiner, Assistant Moderator | | Meghan Hughes, Youth & Young Adults |
| X | Derek Harrison, Treasurer | | |
| X | Karen Demby, Clerk | X | Angel Collie, At Large |
| | | X | Helen Hoenig, At Large |
| X | Cameron Barr, Senior Pastor | X | David Tanner, At Large |
| | | X | Ingrid Schmidt, At Large |
| | Jeff Hall, Adult Education | | |
| | | | Guests |
| X | Christine Harding, Children's | X | Katherine Henderson, SPCC* |
| | | X | Dianne Bertsch, SPCC |
| X | Peter Schay, Deacons | X | Peter Barnes, SPCC |
| | | X | Mary Jenne |
| X | Lee Sorensen, Fellowship | X | Nubia Bello, La Mesa Committee |
| | | X | Ben Sallard, La Mesa Committee |
| | Kirstin Frescoln, BJOS | X | Candace Marles, La Mesa Committee |
| | Tom Tiemann, BJOS | X | Michelle Romero, La Mesa Committee |
| X | Mark Kleinschmidt | X | Kathy Murray |
| | | X | Bill Murray |
| X | Andrea Vizoso, MES | X | Michelle Romero, La Mesa Committee |
| | | X | Larry Kroutil, La Mesa Committee |
| X | Ron Johnson, Trustees | X | Ian McPherson, Associate Pastor |
| X | Nancy White, Trustees | X | Mary Elizabeth Hanchey, Parish Associate |
| | | X | Deborah Stroman |

*Strategic Planning Coordinating Committee

Call to Order

Gaylen Brubaker

Invocation

Rev. Cameron Barr

Welcome and Group Sharing

Melanie Joiner asked the group to say their name and one thing they were thankful for. Council members and guests noted a variety of activities, friends and family important to them.

Approval of Minutes

Peter Schay motioned to approve the minutes from October 22 Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Ron Johnson. David Tanner asked for clarification about the 'Hire a Youth' fundraiser proposed at the meeting. Cameron clarified that the fundraiser was approved with

the caveat that the safe conduct policy was observed. The minutes were approved with no corrections.

Ron Johnson motioned that we approve the minutes from the October 28 Congregational meeting. The motion was seconded by Peter Schay and the minutes were approved with no corrections.

Review Action Items from Congregational Meeting

1. Develop a summary of pass-through giving in the annual report.
2. Provide Summary of overall UCCH financial status in the Annual Report.
3. Look at alternative ways of displaying staff compensation and benefits in future budgets (Personnel Committee and Trustees).

(1-2). Derek Harrison will work on reports and reporting formats and bring examples to Council/Congregation for review and input. These will be devised to satisfy requests for information on financial health, comparisons from year to year, etc. The timing of reporting will also be explored.

(3). The Personnel Committee will work on this issue.

Fundraising Request

Christine Harding motioned to approve a request for fundraising activities to support the August 2020 Columbia Mission Trip. The motion was seconded by Angel Collie and the motion was approved. The activities include a chili cookoff, Zumba dance party, Drag Gospel Brunch, Columbian dinner party and art auction, and, as the opportunity arises, and possibly cooking for the occasion of Congregational meetings.

Annual Housing Allowance Declarations

Housing allowance declarations are made by Council to attest the amounts that are being set aside and that those receiving the declarations are pastors of our church. Gaylen Brubaker motioned to approve the following annual housing allowance declarations: Pastor Cameron Barr (\$35,000); Pastor Ian McPherson (\$32,000); Pastor David Mateo (\$33,444); and Pastor Mary Elizabeth Hanchey (\$20,520). The motion was seconded by Derek Harrison and approved by Council.

Strategic Planning

A discussion of the draft vision statement written by Rev. Barr was led by Katherine Henderson, member of the Strategic Planning Committee. Katherine solicited comments from Council members, which were taken down by Cameron. Cameron then reviewed the strategic planning process flow, acknowledging that next steps include receiving input from the Congregation prior to approval, a Council retreat to draft 3-5 goals, followed by a check-in with the Congregation and Council draft of objectives.

The next step in the process which was to occur on December 1 would have involved Pastor Cameron preaching two sermons related to the draft vision statement, each of which would have been followed by a talk back session for members of the Congregation.

During the meeting, Peter Schay (Deacons) and Nancy White (member of the La Mesa Committee) shared some of the concerns that have been expressed by their board/committee regarding the timing of the Joint Service and staff shared some of their perspectives on the

efforts that have gone into the planning of the service. All parties agreed that occasional joint services were a good idea even though their planning creates multiple challenges.

Pastor Cameron, following discussions with the SPCC and the Pastoral Staff thought it best not to move forward with this plan at this time.

Stewardship Campaign Update

Andrea Vizoso, chair of the MES board announced that we are at 88% of our pledge goal. Our average gift amount has increased over last year and the process is moving along better than expected. Participation by Board and Council members is strong.

2019 Budget Update

Derek Harrison, Treasurer, reported that there is an \$8,000 deficit through the month of October. This is good news in that it is a manageable deficit and November numbers are coming in strong. It is also better compared to last year's figures. Because of the status of the stewardship campaign there has been no change in the 2020 budget.

Pastor Relations Committee Update

- It is time for the six-month review of Pastor Cameron. Some of those in the room received invitations to provide input.
- On December 10, Reverend Davis will return and convene with the group of church members who met with him in August.
- Debbie Morris will make a presentation on the Collaborative Operating System, a tool that will be applied to improve communication and collaboration and help move the strategic planning process along.

Congregational Input Project Update

Ingrid Schmidt, At-Large member, is working with the other At-Large members on a project to strengthen communication for people who are not on boards or committees. The process to facilitate Congregational input is in two parts:

Part 1 is two physical suggestion boxes, which will be created by the Visual Arts Committee. One will be placed on the table under the solar panel monitor in the Fellowship Hall. A second box will also be in the Fellowship Hall, but over by the section where coffee is served on Sunday mornings.

Part 2 is a page on the web which will offer people the opportunity to review projects that the Boards and Committees of the church are working on. The page can be found at this link: <https://unitedchurch.org/organization/>.

December Council Meeting Schedule

Gaylen proposed that we have the December Council meeting on the 10th (instead of the December 17 scheduled date) and have dinner in addition to our regular meeting. There will also be training on the Collaborative Operating System.

Important Date:

Next Council Meeting: December 10 – Dinner at 6:00 pm and Meeting at 7:00 pm

Closing:

Rev. Ian McPherson led the group in prayer.
The Meeting adjourned at ~9:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Demby, Clerk