

**United Church of Chapel Hill
Church Council Meeting, February 25, 2020
Meeting Minutes**

X	Gaylen Brubaker, Moderator		Kirstin Frescoln, BJOS
X	Melanie Joiner, Assistant Moderator		
X	Derek Harrison, Treasurer	X	Andrea Vizoso, MES
X	Karen Demby, Clerk		
		X	Ron Johnson, Trustees
X	Cameron Barr, Senior Pastor		
		X	Millie Brobston, Youth & Young Adults
X	Jeff Hall, Adult Education		
		X	Angel Collie, At Large
	Christine Harding, Children's	X	Helen Hoenig, At Large
		X	David Tanner, At Large
X	Peter Schay, Deacons		Ingrid Schmidt, At Large
	Lee Sorensen, Fellowship		Guest:
		X	Tom Tiemann, BJOS

Call to Order

Gaylen Brubaker, Moderator

Opening Prayer

Rev. Cameron Barr

Welcome and Group Sharing

Melanie Joiner asked people to 'step over the line' based on their religious background, whether they worked with UNC, tendency to introversion and other qualities to help us get to know each other better.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Peter Schay motioned to approve the minutes from the January 28th meeting with the change of the title of "Communications Coordinator" to "Communications Manager". The motion was seconded by Melanie Joiner and the minutes were approved by voice vote.

2020 Budget and Financial Update

Derek Harrison, Treasurer provided the UCCH Year End 2019 Report and the UCCH & NC Community Foundation (attached), led discussion and fielded questions about them. Some of the questions were related to clarifications on use. The information will be discussed in greater detail during the next Council meeting. Key comments/questions:

- Fund Report. No policy exists for the use of the funds. A policy or set of policies could enable a more strategic use of the funds and possibly encourage bequests or large donations.
- Trustees have, in the past explored creating a planned giving document, but did not complete it or have it approved by Council. Tom Tiemann and David Tanner will work on a draft of such a document for Council review.

Derek led discussion related to the 2020 budget (attached). The budget has been revised per the decisions made in the January 2020 Council meeting. There is still a \$20,000 gap between the budget

and amounts pledged and we therefore need to continue messaging related to the need for additional giving. It was also noted that the Boards should exercise care in spending.

Strategic Planning

Gaylen Brubaker led a discussion of possible next steps in strategic planning. The Boards are working on handbooks for the Boards as well as committee descriptions and charters. Some thoughts that were shared:

- A possible need for changes in By-Laws such as a change to a minimum number of Board Members (vs a set number) so that Boards can recruit the optimum number of members.
- Boards could consider a model where they did more governing than 'doing.' For example, the Trustees might recruit counters for the collection on Sunday morning. These counters need not be Board members.
- Immediate recruitment of new members to boards and committees might not be the best strategy for their engagement and enfoldment in the community. Should explore other ways to facilitate participation in ministry.

Next steps:

- Gaylen to send out a list of proposed changes to the By-Laws for clarification and for flexibility for board activities. These suggested changes are intended to be non-controversial. These will be reviewed at the March 24th Council Meeting. Once the wording of the changes are agreed upon and approved by Council, they will be shared with the congregation at least three weeks prior to a special congregational meeting (timing: late April or early May) to seek approval for these changes and to provide an update on Council activities.
- Boards should review the list of draft changes to the By-Laws and provide edits as needed for wording and continue to work on handbooks.
- The Boards should, in order to structure broader conversations around governance and communications, identify areas of ambiguity that may be sources of conflict.

Board and Committee Nominations

It was decided that we would continue with the process for nominations that has been used in the past. The process must be completed in time for the June Congregational meeting.

1. Once the current membership of the Boards and Council has been verified, Karen will distribute this list to Council for use in nominating members for open slots. Its suggested that 2-3 people be proposed for any open slot.
2. Gaylen will send out an announcement about nominations to invite any member of the congregation to self-nominate or nominate any member for any of the open positions on the Boards.
3. Once the Board of Deacons determines that all on the nomination list are eligible, i.e., active members, per the UCCH By-Laws, Council will review the list of candidates and distribute them among the boards and the Moderators (who recruit for At-Large members, Personnel and PRC) to make sure that no person is being asked to serve on more than one board.
4. Once the slate of potential nominees is established for each Board the Boards will take charge of recruitment. It is desirable that each nominee will be asked to serve in person, and, should that not be possible, by phone call. Board chairs are then asked to keep Karen informed as to which of their potential new board members have accepted, which have declined but may be interested in an alternate board, and also to let her know when they are willing to release some

candidates, to make them available to be asked for other boards. Additional strategies and best practices will be discussed and outlined at the March Council meeting.

New Business:

Stacey Parker-Fisher resigned from the personnel committee in September 2019. Since her term was to end in 2022, it was suggested by Melanie Joiner that Matt Newton be selected to serve.

Motion: Melanie Joiner moved that Matt Newton be appointed to the Personnel Committee to complete Stacey Parker-Fisher's term. The Motion was seconded by Peter Schay and approved by voice vote.

Nancy White has resigned from the Board of Trustees for personal reasons. She will be replaced during the regular nomination process.

Next Council Meeting: March 24, 2020

Closing:

Everyone joined hands around the room and Gaylen Brubaker led the group in prayer. The Meeting adjourned at ~9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Demby, Clerk