

Centre Congregational Church

Parish Council Minutes

September 21, 2010

In Attendance: Linda Ladd, Chuck Cotting (via telephone), Jeff Law, Dennis Bailey, Chris Parker, Barbara Langill, Phil Johnson, Jim Marshall, Kathi Martin and Bruce Weaver.

Meditation: Phil led us in a meditation.

Pastor Report: Dennis reported the following:

- He has recently conducted several funerals and will be performing some upcoming baptisms.
- He reminded us to be aware of Alan Marshall who is serving in Afghanistan.
- Confirmation will start in October and he has obtained new materials to use for the class.
- He pointed out that several new families are attending church. Chris added that it is important for all of us to welcome guests.
- Brittany DeSantis will be doing the sermon covering aspects of her recent study tour. That service will be held on Sunday September 26th.
- 4 Bruins tickets for the 2/15/11 game have been donated to be used to raise funds for the church.
- His term on the Yankee Clipper Boy Scout Division is up after serving for 3 years.
- Dennis participated in the 9/11 town Memorial Service. The Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service will be held on Sunday 11/21 at the Episcopal Church.
- Dennis urged us to be thinking of how we can best address our budgetary shortfall. He reminded us that "where God is present is Holy Ground". Dennis also passed out a document that he made available to the congregation as a special appeal to help in this effort. He further suggested we schedule a time in October for the congregation to brain storm on new fundraising projects.

Treasurer Report:

Jeff walked Parish Council through the 2011 final budget to be presented to the congregation at the September 26th Annual Meeting. Among the highlights discussed:

- The 2010 year ended with an operating loss of \$11,704. Income was actually better than budget due largely to special gifts made by the congregation late in the fiscal year. This was offset by increased spending in the area of property maintenance due to unforeseen and unavoidable expenditures.
- The budget for 2011 was reviewed showing a deficit of \$3,165. After considerable discussion it was agreed to increase the CE Director position to 35 hours. This brought the deficit for FY11 to \$6,665. After a motion was seconded it was agreed unanimously to accept the budget for presentation to the congregation.

- Phil Johnson reviewed the properties budget and plan for the next several years pointing out the various large projects that need to be undertaken – HVAC system (finish replacement of gas units), roof repair, gutter work, etc...
- 2 proposals were obtained for the replacement of the basement HVAC system. After a motion was made and seconded it was voted unanimously to award the contract to the low bidder at \$8,900 using funds previously identified as a source of funding.

Annual Meeting: Chris noted that the annual meeting of the congregation will be on 9/26 following the church service.

Nominating Committee: Bruce reported that there continue to be openings for the Recording Clerk, Finance Ministries Team Chair and the Vice Moderator. It was agreed by Council that Chuck Cotting and Dottie Whittier could act as co-chairs of Membership.

Other Business:

- Barbara Langill presented a proposal to have a green dumpster used for recycling paper on the property. The church would receive a portion of the proceeds made by recycling the paper. After some discussion Council gave Barbara authority to investigate further up to and including making arrangements for the dumpster to be obtained at no cost to the church.

Prior to the close of the meeting Parish Council expressed appreciation and thanks to Chris Parker and Phil Johnson who are both at the completion of their terms on Parish Council. The meeting adjourned with Dennis leading us in prayer.

Respectively submitted,

Phil Johnson