

Parish Council Minutes – February 28, 2023

Moderator Bruce Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:06pm. In attendance on Zoom: Bruce Weaver, Rev Lori Wyckoff, Chuck Cotting, Debbie Cotting, Katherine Decker, Scott DeSantis, Linda Ladd, Jeff Law, Jim Marshall, Annmarie Pendola, and Larainne Wilson.

Katherine offered the meditation.

Minutes from the February 7, 2023 meeting were approved by unanimous consent.

Pastor Update:

Rev Lori would like to thank everyone for their support while she was out as well as to Rev Nancy Butcher for filling in. She also reported that our current membership is 254. Our workshop series for Lent is Lookin' for Love. The Thursday Bible Study will be starting back up with a study that was started before the pandemic. It's a close examination of Jesus' Passion - a journey through Holy Week with Amy-Jill Levine. Plans are in place for the Lenten season, including Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and the sunrise Easter Service. Rev Lori will be working with Chapel Sites on the new website. Once the next round of changes are done, she will be having training on the site in order to build up content. Rev Lori will be reaching out to NEPI about the Counseling Office space as we consider how to create a Safe Space for Teens.

Team Updates:

Chuck provided an update from the Finance and Operations Ministry Team. Verizon Wireless is still working on soundproofing their equipment room. He provided a quick update on the sprinkler system. Scott and Chuck are working with Tower Day on plans for bathroom renovations, including awaiting estimates. They are also working on plans for an access control system. F&O would also recommend looking at pursuing solar for our building, which led to a brief discussion about what are the next questions to research.

Fundraising opportunities include Trivia on March 24 and the Golf Tournament on June 26.

Debbie reported that Stewardship is working on determining a theme for this year's Stewardship Campaign.

Annmarie reported that the Deacons are meeting March 12 to discuss Lent/Holy Week plans, as well as the pie challenge to be held on May 21.

Linda provided an update from the Social & Environmental Ministries Team. S&E will host coffee hour on March 19, April 2 and May 14. Donations for the Easter Basket program have been coming in. Plans are being made for an Earth Month event.

Larainne provided an update from Faith Formation. The confirmation retreat to Craigville will be March 10-11. The next Faith Formation Team meeting will be March 14. Youth Group will meet on March 21 to help prepare Easter Baskets. Confirmation Sunday is May 21.

Jeff provided a brief budget update.

Group Discussion:

Discussions included a recap of 2022 Bylaw changes and ongoing plans for 2023. We are still struggling with recruiting new members to join committees. There was also a discussion regarding upcoming staff reviews. The first priority is updating paid staff job descriptions and then looking at the format of the process.

Old/New Business:

There being no further business, Council voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Decker, Recording Secretary

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 28 @ 7pm