

CVUU Board Minutes

July 12, 2023

6:30 p.m.

Fellowship Hall/Zoom

Attendance: Karen Impola, Dennis Harbaugh, Pastor Emma, Floralyn Groff, Lizzy O’Loughlin, Jena Talbert (for Mike Knapp), Rick Henry, Dick Warhol, Stacey Bartz (Zoom), Desiree Cunningham (Zoom), and Rob Boody.

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 6:31 pm by President Harbaugh.

Agenda: Moved to approve the Agenda as written. Motion passed.

Welcome New Board Members: The President warmly welcomed the new members joining the Board this fiscal year: Richard Henry, Dick Warhol, and Mike Knapp.

Coming Together Moment: The President proposed we start with a “coming together moment” at the start of the meeting and gave an inspirational reading towards that end.

Beginning of the Year Board Protocols/Expectations (Dennis):

- The Board is the policy making body for the congregation.
- Start on time.
- Be in person if you can.
- If you can’t come or join on Zoom, let him know.
- Time and energy is important—he’ll try to corral and balance the varied needs.
- Feel free to participate and offer your perspective.
- Be civil.
- Assume the best intentions in others.
- He will get an agenda out well ahead, then an adjusted one near the night
- Comments with visitors—be aware of how we phrase things.
- Any concerns or questions—let him know.

Code of Conduct: Per the Handbook, it was read out in full and all Board members affirmed it.

Approval of June Minutes: Approved unanimously as written.

Old Business/Follow-Ups

- **Email:** *There was general consensus that the CVUU delegates to this summer’s GA should have the opportunity to report on their experience informally.*
- **Email votes taken this month:** None in the last month.
- **Updating of the Congregation Handbook**—*will do this year. Probably start on this in September when the councils start meeting regularly again. We should try to wrap this project in the Fall. The Councils should bring ideas for changes to the Congregational to the Board in October.*

Council Reports (Written reports are typically) submitted prior to the meeting.

Pastor's Report (Pastor Emma)

- Report submitted. Will be gone end of July through August 1.

President's Report (Dennis Harbaugh)

- Report submitted. Nothing to add.

Vice-President's Report/Personnel (Karen Impola)

- Report submitted.
This year we will be collecting hours for salaried employees and doing background checks for volunteers.

Building & Grounds Council Report (Richard Henry)

- Report submitted (this month by Dennis as outgoing representative).
Richard Henry will be representative to the Board.
Roger will probably be chair.

Congregational Life Council Report (Stacey Bartz)

- No report submitted.
Congregational Life chair is Juanita.
Board representative will be Stacey.
Carollyn Hartsfield—Caring Connection.
Juanita Williams—Membership and Marketing.

Finance Council Report (Jena Talbert for Mike Knapp)

- Report submitted.
Chair: Mike Knapp
Board rep: Mike Knapp
The Council would like to see recognition for the three members that did the stairs—the bid was over \$10K, and they did it for less than \$2k and did it quick.

Religious Education and Programs Council Report (Desiree Cunningham)

- Report submitted.
Kate is chair of the council.
Desiree is representative to the Board.

Karen noted that the chairs should be listed on the CVUU Webpage.

Religious Services Council Report (Dick Warhol)

- No report submitted.
Mandy is chair of the RSC.
Dick is the representative to the Board.

Shared Ministry Council Report

- No report submitted.
Shared Ministry representative to the Board is Floralyn.
Heather is chair.

Social Action Council Report (Lizzy O'Loughlin)

- No report submitted – Sign up for PRIDE (end of August).
Representative to the Board: Lizzy
Austen is chair.

New Topics

- Request from Finance to send letter of thanks and recognition to Roger for helping the congregation by rebuilding the staircase.
Consensus of the Board that this is a good idea. *Dennis will write the letter.*
- Board fundraising for 2023-24.
The approved budget asks the Board to raise \$151 this fiscal year.
Dennis: Think about it. . . *we will plan what to do for this at a later meeting.*
- Motion from the Finance Council: if there is any FY '23 budget surplus, put it in the BMR.
Discussion ensued. The suggestion is because with the age of the building considerable work needs to be done. Note: if nothing else is enacted, any surplus would go back to the General Fund. It was also suggested that it could be kept as a cushion for this year's tight budget.
It was moved that the discussion be tabled until next meeting. This was approved.
- The Board needs to have goals.
We will have a retreat some evening in the last two weeks of August.
We will ask chairs to come first part, then we will create measurable goals for the Board.
- *Theme—we will do at the August 10 Board meeting.*
The RSC planning retreat is August 5—it would be nice to have had the theme before then.
We want to sustain the theme—not just hit it once and move on

Personal Priorities

President Harbaugh thought it would be good for he and Pastor Emma to share their personal priorities for the year as we usually hear only the broader goals.

President Harbaugh

1. Continue to build Religious Education—especially nurse.
2. The congregation impacts the larger community.
Along with PRIDE—work in the community another thing or two—especially intergenerational.
Tie in with Social Action.
3. As leaders we could communicate better with the congregation.
My focus—keeping the congregation informed of Board actions.
Board Briefs in the newsletter—Gerri.
Weekly update—Kat.
Put link to approved minutes.

Pastor Emma

1. I also am supportive of Children's Religious Education.
It has been part of Board goal for 3 yrs+ to revitalize CRE.
Before 2020, we had a pretty sizeable and active youth group. Then Covid hit. How do we rebuild this? And with our DRE's commuting issue, it is mainly up to us.
2. At GA this year—all the delegates met and 80%+ voted to change Article 2.
We can try out the new values this year—the full vote isn't until next summer.
See what it might be like to live into these personally and into the community.
We have fallen out of practice with centering the Board into our values.
3. Siloing---committees not communicating with each other.
We need to consider our communication styles—not all are serving us well.
Shared Ministry has been working on this for a while.

Create awareness and scaffolding around communication and conflict.
We could talk more and assume less. We should assume the best intentions of others. We're on the same team—we may each want a different approach—but the same goals.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Next Board Meeting – Wednesday, August 10, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rob Boody
Board Secretary

Note:

- motions made that might need to be referenced later are underlined, and
- additional action items are *italicized*.