

First Presbyterian Church
Session Minutes
May 15, 2017

A Quorum was present: Debbie Seifert, Meg Knight, Jenny Killian, Peter Wilson, Sue Pangie, Sue Getsch. Excused: Eve Kenyon. Pastor Scott DeBlock, Moderator. Guests: Justina Danison, Administrative Assistant, and Marty and Bev Davis

The meeting, held in the church parlor, was opened at 6:35 pm with prayer and called to order.

The minutes of April 10, 2017 were accepted and approved.

Marty Davis reported on the roof bids. He has received one bid from Old World Roofing and an engineering report. Scott received another quote (Star Roofing). An anonymous church member has offered to pay ½ of the roofing cost. Finance Team discussed some funds available to pay the balance- there is \$24,000 in the memorial fund for capital improvement. We could borrow from ourselves and repay ourselves. Session reviewed both quotes. The materials appear to be the same. A metal roof will last 40-50 years. Does Star have experience with old buildings? Do we have references for Star? Old World has done the repair work here previously. Our roof is 25-75 years old. Peter and Marty will work together to call for some references and get some questions answered. Based on the research, we should be able to make a decision by email.

The Standing Reports received via the Consent Agenda were approved and are as follows:

Clerk's Report:

- Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated: April 16, May 7
- Special Services/Activities: Maundy Thursday Seder Dinner-April 13; Good Friday Tenebrae Service-April 14
- Communications: none
- Baptisms, funerals, deaths: April 29- Wedding ceremony for Norma Fosdick and David Rezsnyak; May 11- Burial of Ron Phelps

Church Calendar Review:

CAT open until May 21

Team Reports

- Personnel (Jenny Killian, chair)- no report, Meeting June 1; Milt Hall has joined team
- Christian Education Team (Tom Carter, chair, Sue Pangie, Liaison) - April 2 meeting minutes
- Stewardship and Finance Team (Debbie Seifert, chair)- financial reports ending April 30, 2017; May 8 meeting minutes
- Worship- meeting June 8
- Deacons- meeting May 21

Housekeeping Items

Next Presbytery meeting: Tuesday, June 6, 9:30 am Northville United Presbyterian Church. Scott and Sue will attend. Sue reported that the title for elders and ministers has changed. Also, there is a new policy on communion and those receiving it.

Buildings and Grounds Team: Sue Getsch has volunteered to chair the team. Sue and Scott will meet to start on a plan of action, and gather the team. There is a hole on the corner of our property. Scott and Peter will follow up on contacting village DPW. Any building concerns should be directed to Sue. Sue presented some notes she wrote up.

Old Business

Backstretch Program: The Race Track Chaplaincy has been in touch with the church and Session, and Scott heard from David Bennett, who provided Scott with some resource ideas. Scott said he will take on the project on behalf of the church. He has started making connections.

Toys/equipment in basement: The Christian Ed team will discuss the issue at its next meeting.

Communion delivered by non-pastor: Sue Getsch recently attended a training in Cooperstown on delivering communion. She learned how to do so, as well as how to make it more personal. Our church may now have communion without the pastor being present.

New Business

Meg spoke with Shelters of Saratoga, as follow up on the homeless person that was on our porch when it was cold. They have an outreach person who goes out and finds homeless people. SOS suggested we develop a relationship with the village police. Scott will talk to the neighbors, to keep them up to date. Meg will persevere on this topic in anticipation of next winter.

The Zerbes (mission family the church supports) will be in the USA this summer. Meg will ask Brian Zerbe if he'd like to do a presentation August 20 at our service.

The mission team wants to put a Blessing Box outside- "give a blessing, take a blessing." It could be placed on the Bath St. side of our property. It would be big enough to hold several cans of soup and some toiletries. The mission team will formulate more plans and Scott will share this idea with other village clergy at their upcoming meeting.

Pastor's Report

Scott is meeting tomorrow with April and Gabriella of April Fresh, our cleaning service. We have noticed a lack of time being spent cleaning our building. Scott will be going over the contract.

Scott is looking for ideas of people who would be good for the transition team. Session members are asked to share suggestions with him promptly.

He is meeting June 4 after worship with Tom Carter and Jared Wachtel regarding confirmation on June 18. In addition, Scott will work on holding a new members class, and will pick a date for ordination and installation of Ken Getsch for Deacons.

Canoeing the Mountains

Session shared a few ideas of what they thought of the book. Scott will facilitate discussion at each of our next meetings. Why does a congregation exist? The mission trumps everything. Churches get stuck in the technical part, and not the adaptive part. The millennials want to see what we are DOING, not what we are TALKING about. Giving the changing culture, with so many things still the same, the church needs to put aside the canoes. Our mission is outside those already sitting in the pews. It's not about those of us in church already.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Jenny Killian, Co-Clerk of Session

Next meeting dates- Sunday, June 4 after church; Monday, June 19 6:00 pm; Shannon Vance-Ocampo will be here. Scott will arrange a meal.

Elder on Call Schedule: October 2016– Jenny; November – Sue; December – Meg; January 2017 – Deb; February – Jenny; March – Sue Getsch; April – Peter; May- Meg; *June – Sue Pangie; July- Eve*