

PROSPECT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES
October 23, 2012

Attendance: Christa Zaldivar, Jill Wilson, Carolyn Koboski, Joyce Rioux, Jeanette Baker, Bill Katt, Tim Krauss, Heidi Flower, Beth Provost, Carla Heister, Robert Sorozan, Sue Powers – Excused Bill Thibodeau, Chris Wilson, John Rioux, Carol Rivard, Jeff Paulette

Sue Powers called the meeting to order at 7:05. Tim Krauss offered this month's devotion, Carolyn Koboski offered passed around several items with comments of encouragement and wisdom with each.

The minutes of the September 18, 2012 meeting were accepted as presented.

Church Survey – Responses from the church survey were discussed by the group. It was determined that there are four areas of concern that we should address. Bible Study, Health and Fitness and Family Activities were areas where the congregation response was positive; while Young Adult Group responses were extremely negative.

1. Bible Study: Based on the responses it appears that short mini-series like programs presented during the middle of the day and/or evenings were preferred. Bob Sorozan will try one or two one-day Bible Studies in November and December during both time periods to gauge the response.
2. Family Activities: Several ideas were presented to address this topic
 - a. Christa Zaldivar will coordinate and organize an early evening family oriented New Year's Eve party. It was suggested that Bristol, England be used to set the count down.
 - b. Heidi Flower offered to organize and lead a Family Folk Dance event.
 - c. Bob Sorozan noted that a trip to the Trolley Museum in Windsor could be arranged
 - d. There are numerous Family events organized by the Men's Group
3. Health and Fitness: It was decided to talk with Bill Thibodeau to see if he could suggest programs. It was also suggested that we contact Dave Kelly about trying to restart the cycling group and that the walking group be restarted.
4. Young Adult Group: It was generally felt that the age bracket was too large, rather than 18 to 35 years it might be better to try 18 – 25 years and 25 to 35 years. There are too many life changes during that period. Also the results of the survey may be skewed due to a lack of respondents in that age group.
 - a. Jill Wilson will review the Church Data to identify people in that group to contact and see if there are any areas that we might address.
 - b. Heidi Flower is working on the cradle roll and has just sent out reminders/follow ups in September.

Also we need to provide more information on the functions and interests of all of the groups operating in the church – administrative and social. The Tri-fold Bulletin Board could and should be used for this purpose.

It was also suggested that we consider making a concerted effort to get the church brochure into the hands of those visiting the church for any event and where appropriate inviting them to return and join us for worship.

Committee Reports - The committee reports from The Middle Aged Group, Faith in Action, Roberts Fund, Nurture and Men's Fellowship were presented.

Staff Parish Relations Committee – Joyce Rioux noted that Heidi Flower has been voluntarily working to develop a children's music group (Louisa Gladu assisting) and the SPR Committee feels that as this function is a portion of the Assistant Music Director position feel that Heidi should be compensated for this activity. It would be separate from her function as Music Director/Organist. Heidi recused herself from the meeting for this item.

Joyce moved that – Heidi Flower be compensated in the amount of \$50 per pay period for preparing for and conducting a children's music Program. The motion was seconded by Jeanette Baker and Tim Krauss.

During the discussion it was noted that the funds were available through the budgeted line item for the vacant Assistant Music Director position. It was also noted that this is part of Heidi's professional association with the church and as such deserves compensation.

Several comments were made that this would be a bad precedent and just because "the money is there" is not a good reason to do this. It was also noted that we have a number of people volunteering to do tasks that previously we had paid employees doing.

After discussion the questioned was moved and voted upon. It passed 9 – 3.

A subsequent motion was made by Bill Katt to make the effective date October 23, 2012, it was seconded and approved.

Finance Committee – Tim Krauss submitted and commented on the financial reports. He then advised that the Audit was proceeding and that the Committee had developed a proposed budget for submission at the Charge Conference.

Pastor's Report – Pastor Sorozan

1. Lay Leadership – This is moving forward and we anticipate having all positions filled before the Charge Conference.
2. NCD – Should we continue this program? Do we want to do another Survey? After discussion it was decided to not to proceed at this time.
3. Charge Conference – The Charge Conference will be held on November 29, 2012 with a pot-luck dinner at 6:00 and meeting to follow at 7:00 with the District Superintendent, Ken Kieffer, presiding. Generally we are in good shape. Committee chairs should have their annual reports submitted to Sue Powers by November 20, 2012 (at her email address). Remember that this is a Celebration of Our Church Life.
4. Steward's Fund – Since June we have distributed about \$2500 from this fund. Approximately 80% to members of the congregation.
5. Worship Service Attendance – Since the start of Sunday School attendance at the worship service has been in excess of 100
6. After the service on October 21, 2012, three people approached Carol Rivard and volunteered to help cleaning the church.
7. The Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service will be held at Prospect this year. Everything seems to be moving along well but a volunteer is needed to coordinate and organize the reception the follows the service. Jeanette Baker volunteered for this task.
8. Christmas Services – Bob asked for approval for the services to be scheduled for 4:00 and 11:00 PM. This was approved.
9. Thanksgiving Sunday – Bob asked that we celebrate Thanksgiving Sunday on the Sunday after Thanksgiving – November 25, 2012. This was approved.

Tin Krauss actually gave the finance report after the Pastor's report.

Sue Powers –

1. There will be no Church Council meetings in November or December 2012. The Charge Conference will be the November meeting
2. All Committee annual reports should be submitted to her at her email address no later than November 20, 2012.
3. The next meeting of the Church Council will be January 15, 2013

Pastor Sorozan closed the meeting with a prayer.