

Dunbarton Congregational Church
Church Council Meeting via Zoom
April 11, 2021

Present:

Moderator – Linda Morse
Vice Moderator – Scott Leslie
Clerk – Lynn Leslie
Pastor Robert Vodra
C/E & Curios – Stephanie Herlihy
Deacons – Marsha McKay and Carol-Ann Jane
Missions – Patty Shearin
Stewardship – Linda Morse
Treasurer – *Absent*
Trustees – Scott Leslie
Communications – Linda Morse
Music – *Absent*
Members at Large – Barb Bennett

Opening Prayer: Pastor Robert

March Church Council minutes were approved

Pastor's Report:

- Virtual services are being done from the church sanctuary as several people preferred; all feedback is welcomed.
- The zoom Maundy Thursday service went well with many people participating, as did the Easter service held outside.
- Robert and the deacons are planning on holding services outside on the first Sunday of each month (communion Sundays).
- Robert will be conducting a funeral service outside on either June 26th or 27th

Curios:

- While getting the shop organized for reopening, the "open" flag was set out. Several people stopped in and expressed their pleasure on the reopening, contributing items to sell and making purchases totaling \$200 in sales.
- There has been no problem with social distancing and people are voluntarily wearing masks.
- Volunteers are still needed. There still may be concern for safety during Covid.
- Several people have made donations with thanks for the community presence.
- Patty suggested putting a pop-up tent in the parking area to display additional items that would be more visible to passersby. Items now, are often set outside on nice days which has not interfered with tenants' parking area. Stephanie will pass on the suggestion.
- There has been no mention by the landlord of any changes to our current lease.

Evaluation Committee:

- The committee met via zoom on Friday. A cover letter and survey will be mailed to 47 individuals asking for a response within two weeks.
- Once the surveys are returned, the committee will review and meet with Robert.

Communications:**Mission statement:**

- As an FYI for everyone, once a mission statement has been developed, it will be put to a vote at the annual meeting.
- There will be a zoom meeting on April 25th at 1:00 and May 13th at 7:00. Contact Robert for the zoom link if you'd like to join these meetings.
- This "why we exist" mission statement should be short and memorable.

Priorities:

- What are the next steps for developing the priorities? Robert suggests waiting until after the minister/ministry evaluation is completed. The results may help determine which priorities are most important or identify new ones.

Missions:

- The next roadside cleanup will be next Saturday, the 17th at 9:00, then in June, August, and October.
- Patty suggests watching David Attenborough's "Life on Our Planet"

Deacons:

- There were 31 people attending the Easter service
- The deacons are considering holding a candlelight vigil for lives lost during the pandemic. More discussion to come.
- There was a discussion about holding all Sunday services outside, weather permitting. Robert said he records the services anywhere between Tuesday through Friday, depending on his availability.
- A suggestion was made to create a generic service in case last minute weather issues prevent an outside service.
- Robert and the deacons will discuss this.

Trustees:

- A broken windowpane in the church was covered

Closing prayer

Next Church Council meeting will be May 16th at 11:00 AM via zoom.