

Niantic Community Church Governing Board Minutes

16 JAN 2023, 7:00 pm (Zoom)

1. Call to Order 7:00pm by President Frank Chan. Governing Board team members present: Frank Chan, Peg Herzberg, Liz Buhler, Judy DeVey, Terri McTigue, Kathy Leindecker, Craig Woody, Carol Donovan, Hal Robb, and Mary Childs. Members of the congregation include: Nancy Hunt, Jen Datum, Jeannette Woodworth, Georgie Granger, Juanita Durham, Marsha Swan, John and Kay Whritner, Sue Smith, Edna Gilstad, Carolyn Carter, Ron Johnson, Rich Thomson, Frank and Mary Mirecki, Kaleigh Rasmussen, and Pam Stevens.
2. Joys and Concerns, Opening Prayer given by Peg Herzberg and included prayers of those present.
3. Motion for the approval of the 19th December Governing Board meeting minutes by Craig Woody, seconded by Peg Herzberg. Discussion regarding a correction to the statement about the “troops” setting up the nativity scene should read “scout troops #7 and #240”. No other corrections or changes discussed.
Motion to approve the minutes as amended passed
4. Officers’ Reports
 - a. President’s Report: Frank Chan shared an update on current COVID numbers and the recommendation for masking indoors. Blood Drives are scheduled for 2/17, 3/22, 4/14, and 6/9/2023. Attendance for the last 12 months was shared with increases noticed across the months of October, November, and December.
 - b. Treasurer’s Report: Liz Buhler shared the current financial status, pledges exceeded by \$19,000 (see draft report) Updated Profit and Loss and Financial Report will be given at the Annual Meeting. Motion to approve the draft financial report made by Hal Robb, seconded by Kathy Leindecker. **Motion carried.**
5. Ministry Teams’ Reports
 - a. Legacy: Hal Rob reported that the Memorial Fund group met and paid grants to students who applied. Thank you to Kaleigh for the service this week.
 - b. Maintenance: Craig Woody reported that a rug cleaner is coming to clean the multipurpose room rug and also that the storage room is being organized & inventoried. Pictures will be shared for teams to claim items.
 - c. Operations: Terri McTigue shared that Ellen Abutin is resigning as representative for the worship team. Terri would like to thank Bob and Ellen for the work they have done in this position. Nancy Rigdon from the Music Team will post the organist

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- position. The Operations Team would like to see the Ministry Team Fair to return as soon as possible. The suggested date would be the second or third week in February.
- d. Administration: Judy DeVey shared that Cheri Meier will fill the vacant associate leader position on Administration Ministry team.
 - e. Justice, Education, and Fellowship: Kathy Leindecker reported that a group met to discuss the next steps, thank you to Marsha Swan who will step up as Christian Education Interim for about 3-6 months to keep things going. This position is for 20 hours per week, and is actually two positions. Will need to post and advertise as there has not been a huge response. Julia's farewell is next week and donations are being accepted. Thank you to Margaret Holmberg for her time as chair of OAR. Carolyn Carter has agreed to fill this position moving forward. Thank you to Ron Johnson for the message regarding the anniversary and history of OAR. Thank you to Carolyn for posting the private Facebook message regarding nametags. The nursery update is slowly working out how to occupy the nursery and working out cleaning details up to the standards that the day care needs. Parish life Ministry has new members on the team and is working to reinvigorate the prayer chain.

6. Current Business Items

- a. Annual Meeting Agenda: item number 5 will actually be to approve two sets of meeting minutes (23rd OCT quarterly meeting and 4th DEC special meeting). Ministry Teams are asked to highlight what their teams' accomplishments and their plans for 2023. The 2023 budget will be presented. Gail San Juan is actively recruiting for open positions.
- b. Motion to forward the 2023 Proposed Budget for Congregational Approval. Carol Donovan shared that we received 114 pledges totaling \$405,983, which means we have enough to balance the fixed cost only budget by using about \$30,000 of the current reserves. We will not be able to cover additional requests.

Carol Donovan made a motion to accept the draft budget to the congregational meeting, Craig Woody seconded the motion.

Discussion: Kathy Leindecker inquired about the audit moving forward and Carol reported that we are looking to conduct soft audits with a full audit every three years. It was requested that the childcare center put this item in their budget in 2 years. Our soft audit will not include the childcare center. Frank Chan asked if we could put money into a reserve fund for maintenance like the roof replacement. It is projected that there is \$120,000 in reserve now, \$40,000 is in case of emergency. Hal Robb asked about the loans that we currently have and if it would be a good idea to pay them down now if there was no pre-pay penalty. Liz Buhler was not sure about our current rate. Jen Datum asked about denominational giving, stating that

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the current level will keep it at the bottom line. Also asked about the current personnel manual. If a full time staff does not want the benefits package, it states the payment would be \$100 per month for opting out. Jen wanted to know if we could increase this. Discussion was that we offer to pay their insurance so this payment is only if they do not want to participate in our insurance. Kathy Leindecker asked about the total for loose offerings which was at \$27,000 last year and is budgeted for \$25,000 this year. We are able to raise money outside of this budget for mercy and justice projects. Thank you to Ron Johnson for bringing important causes for our church. We collect about 30 pounds of coffee every month for te Homeless Hospitality Center.

The voice vote was recorded as approving: Judy DeVey, Terri McTigue, Kathy Leindecker, Craig Woody, Hal Robb, Liz Buhler, Mary Childs, Peg Herzberg, and Frank Chan. No members voted against. **Motion passed**

- c. Slate of Governing Board members for 2023: We still have open positions on the Governing Board, please share with our members and to those who might be interested. Thank you to Carol Donovan for her efforts in Financial Resources. Peg Herzberg thanked Kathy Kern as she did a fine job as well. Frank Chan recognized Georgie Granger and Stewardship for their amazing work. They completed 114 Thank you cards and phone calls are still being made to get more pledges.
7. New Business Items: 9:30 worship service start time option has been shared with the ministry team, music and tech. The teams would need to agree and then announce the change for three weeks. Christian Education will need to be consulted as well as families are stakeholders who would be impacted by this change. Jen Datum shared that three weeks is a short amount of time and Kathy Leindecker shared that Faith Forum should be considered as well.
8. Voices of the Congregation
Jeannette Woodworth suggested that the service start time at 9:30 could be adjusted with the Daylight Savings Time change.

Ron Johnson shared that Outreach dispersed \$13,000 and expressed that he is prepared to speak at the Annual Meeting in support of important ministries and prioritizing support.

Mary Mirecki shared that the increase in service time might actually move from 9:00-10:20 to 9:30-10:50.

Nancy Hunt shared that Daylight Saving Time would be on 3/10/2023 this spring.
9. Adjournment, motion to adjourn made by Hal Robb, seconded by Craig Woody, **Motion carried, meeting adjourned at 8:05pm**

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Respectfully submitted by Mary Childs, Clerk

Next Governing Board Meeting – Monday, 27 February 2023

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