

Niantic Community Church Governing Board Minutes

15 April 2024, 7:00 pm (in-person)

Members present: Carol Donovan, Nancy Hunt, Liz Buhler, Pastor Erica, Linda Helvig, Pastor Kaleigh, Judy DeVey, Peg Herzberg, Jeannette Woodworth, Hal Robb, Gail San Juan, Mary Childs

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm
2. Joys and Concerns: Prayers were shared by those present
3. Opening Prayer – Liz Buhler shared a reflection and an opening prayer
4. Approval of the March 18, 2024 Governing Board meeting minutes: Motion made by Judy DeVey and seconded by Jeannette Woodworth to approve the minutes from March 18, 2024 as written. Motion carried.

5. Reports

- a. President: Carol Donovan reported that the event regarding Nehantic history was well attended, shared that Jeff Birch will hold his Capstone Project culmination on May 4th, and the focused retreat will be held on May 18th. The next Congregational Meeting will be held on April 28th.
- b. Pastor Erica: Shared an update of the process for announcements that has been in practice the last few weeks. If a team or group has an announcement they wish to share at a service, they are advised to speak with either of the pastors before the service.
- c. Pastor Kaleigh: Reported that she is getting ready for the Methodist Conference. She has completed the House of Healing class at York Prison which was a great experience. She plans to conduct another class in the fall. Confirmation class will be finishing up and confirmation Sunday will be on 6/2/24.
- d. Treasurer: Liz Buhler shared the report. Currently we are \$15,000 above the

pledges from last year and under for fundraising, which should level out after our events. The Martin Luther King Jr Scholarship Fund donations are being held in a separate account. Motion to approve the Treasurer's report made by Mary Childs and seconded by Hal Robb. Motion approved.

e. Ministry Teams - highlights

Legacy: Hal Robb is looking forward to more information in April from UCF.

JEF: Jeannette Woodworth shared details regarding Christian Education attendance and nursery care. OAR held a well attended event with a Nehantic Tribal Council presentation. The Anti-racism three part series will be held at the East Lyme Public Library in the fall. Registration will be through the library website. PARJE will cover the cost of this series. Additionally PARJE is looking to add two directors to their board. Parish Life has been very busy with providing lunch, coordinating the rummage sale, etc.

PMT: Peg Herzberg shared Craig Woody's report and gave an update on the proposal for the new door for the sanctuary. This proposal will be brought to a Congregational vote at the next quarterly meeting, on April 28th. Motion made by Peg Herzberg, seconded by Hal Robb to bring the door replacement proposal to the Congregational Meeting. Motion approved.

PMT also plans to develop a work list for the Parsonage.

Administration: Judy DeVey shared that Kathy Leindecker will work with Marsha Swan regarding the procedures for volunteers. The first aid kits have been replenished. This team will work to update the date on all forms. Evaluations have been moved to mid April.

Finance: Gail San Juan shared that her team is looking for volunteers for two committees being created, cost containment and fundraising.

Operations: Linda Helvig shared that the choirs are busy and looking to recruit new members. There have been no recent applications for the posted organist position. Discussion regarding this position and seeking what our Church needs. The child care center has a full complement of teachers and a waiting list for children. Currently looking for an

NCC representative to fill Mary Brailey's position. Additionally the child care center is looking for an assistant director.

6. Current Business

a. Leadership moments

- i. April 28 – Property Management/Technology
- ii. May 19- Finance

b. Governing Board meeting with Jeff Birch re Capstone Project

- i. May 4; 11 am – 2 pm
- ii. Officers, Team Leads and Associate Team Leads
- iii. Jeff will provide sandwiches, GB members provide snacks and dessert

c. Focused Retreat – May 18, open to congregation, still looking for a location for us to meet.

d. April 28 Quarterly Congregational meeting, a vote will need to be held for filling assistant chair positions on PMT as well as Legacy, vote needed for representatives for UMC and UCC, and a vote is needed to change the sanctuary door. An update will be shared on the settled pastor search.

7. New Business

- a. Need to cover coffee hour in May: looking for volunteers to help serve at coffee hour for the month.

8. AOB: No other business raised

9. Voices of the Congregation: Sue Smith, Marion McKenzie, Peg Herzberg, Marsha Swan, and Nancy Hunt all shared questions and ideas.

10. Adjournment: Motion made by Liz Buhler and seconded by Jeannette Woodworth to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm

Respectfully submitted by Mary Childs, NCC Clerk

Quarterly Congregational meeting – April 28, 2024

Next Governing Board meeting – May 20, 2024

May Opening Prayer – Gail SanJuan