

Approved by the Governing Board on 17 April 2023

Niantic Community Church Governing Board Meeting Minutes 20 March 2023, 7:00 pm (In-Person)

Governing Board members present: President Frank Chan, Vice President Peg Herzberg, Treasurer Liz Buhler, Clerk Mary Childs, Terri McTigue, Nancy Hunt, Craig Woody, Hal Robb, Jen Datum, and Cheri Meier.

Staff members present: Pastor Eric Elnes, Rev. Kaleigh Rasmussen, and Marsha Swan
Several church members were also present.

1. Call to Order: Frank Chan called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm
2. Joys and Concerns, Opening Prayer: Peg Herzberg offered an opening prayer
3. Approval of the 27 February 2023 Governing Board meeting minutes

Hal Robb made the motion, seconded by Peg Herzberg, **Motion passed by voice vote.**

4. Officers' Reports

a. President's Report: (see President's report 3/20/23) Frank Chan shared a COVID update and asked members to refer to the Wednesday Note, Sunday email, Tidings, Website, and Facebook page for up-to-date information on events.

b. Pastor's Report: Pastor Eric Elnes shared an update on the past 3.5 months, a focus on increasing communication, healing, and an increased energy has been noted. Moving into phase two and beyond by answering the questions of Who are we as Christians and how do we interact with those of other faiths?

c. Treasurer's February Monthly Report: Liz Buhler shared the up-to-date budget and expenditures. See Financial Report. At this point, pledges are ahead, loose offering is behind, expenses are up and specifically electricity is up \$1,600. Motion to approve the report made by Terri McTigue, seconded by Craig Woody **Motion passed by voice vote, none opposed.**

5. Ministry Teams' Reports

Legacy: Hal Robb: Planning to hold a celebration of 70 years of the UMC/UCC union on Children's Sunday in June. Two file cabinets will be moved upstairs and hold binders of historical files. These will be transferred to electronic versions. Looking to have Technical Ministry Oversight Team documents approved, drafts available.

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Property Management and Technology: Craig Woody: looked into hot water concerns in the kitchen, reminder to ask before storing anything in the storage room, working to set up property clean up this spring and some tree trimming in the Memorial Garden location. Cleaning manuals have been established and the quality seems good.

Operations: Terri McTigue: See Report. Our new organist will start 4/2/23, Easter plans are set, see the Church website for updates.

JEF: Nancy Hunt: OAR had the first of four educational sessions and 67 people attended either in person or on zoom, special donations will go for Hunger and Homelessness aid. Still looking for a coordinator for DINE and our community meal efforts. Looking into showing a movie and licensing requirements. 15 cards have been sent to members.

Administration: Cheri Meier: Staff evaluations have been finished. Pam McCauley is completing background checks. We are still looking for a team leader for the Financial Resources Ministry team and additional members.

6. Current Business Items

a. Planning for the Ministry team fair on 26 March 2023: Teams will be represented and encourage members of our congregation to learn about the Governing Board and join activities.

b. Rev. Kaleigh's continuance with NCC – portfolio of duties: Board discussed an updated contract with Reverend Kaleigh and proposing to employ her as a part time associate pastor (about 25 hours per week). The proposal would be to prioritize pastoral care. Discussion regarding the need and financial terms for this potential pastoral position. Rev. Kaleigh provided perspective that having an official UMC appointment is essential to keep her in good standing as a UMC ordained minister. Further discussions continued after we excused Rev. Kaleigh

Motion made by Hal Robb and seconded by Liz Buhler to approve and recommend to call Kaleigh Rasmussen as a UMC Minister for a part time Pastoral Care position. Roll call vote resulted in unanimous agreement to approve.

c. Settled pastor search (UCC or UMC) – on the letter to the Congregation. Discussion regarding a letter to the Congregation regarding the settled pastor search process. The letter outlines the two different conference processes. All church members are encouraged to join the Pastoral Search Committee and help update our Church profile.

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Craig Woody made the motion and Hal Robb seconded the motion. 8 members voted yes, 1 abstained (President did not vote since he requested the Governing Board to authorize him to sign the letter). **Motion passed.**

7. New Business Items

a. Signup for Coffee Hour - May through October 2023.

May – Financial Resources, June – Legacy, July – Operations, August – JEF.

b. Planning for April 23rd Quarterly Congregational meeting

c. An Offsite Governing Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for 4/29/2023.

8. Voices of the Congregation: Members present who shared their comments were Sue Smith, Ron Johnson, Frank Mirecki, Juanita Durham, and Marsha Swan.

9. Adjournment: Motion made by Hal Robb, seconded by Craig Woody.
Meeting adjourned at 9:11pm

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Childs, NCC Clerk

Next Governing Board Meeting – Monday, 17 April 2023