

Niantic Community Church

Draft Quarterly Congregational Meeting Minutes

April 28, 2024

54 members attended in person in the sanctuary

1. Meeting was called to order by President Carol Donovan at 10:31 am
2. Notice of Call
3. Opening prayer offered by Carol Donovan
4. Comments to be accepted in chat from those online
5. Motion to approve the 1/28/2024 Annual Meeting made by Stephanie Chan and seconded by Jeannette Woodworth, motion passed with unanimous voice vote
6. Motion to approve Associate Leaders for Legacy and Property Management/Technology teams and nominate the delegate to UCC and UMC made by Hal Robb, and seconded by Juanita Durham. Motion passed with unanimous voice vote.
7. Motion made to replace the door to the sanctuary made by Craig Woody and seconded by Betty Mahon, motion passed with unanimous voice vote. The door will cost \$1200 and the fee to install will be under \$500.
8. Carol Donovan gave an update from the Governing Board:
 - a. Calvin McCoy attended church as this year's MLKJr. Scholarship awardee
 - b. Faith in action recently we held two fundraisers, of which \$12,000 is earmarked for 2024 MLKJr. Scholarship
 - c. Homeless hospitality support
 - d. Rummage sale
 - e. Legacy team has updated the gift acceptance policy
 - f. President and Vice President are offering office hours from 1-3:00 on Tuesdays. Alternative times are available as well.
 - g. Will continue to hold the quarterly congregational meetings
 - h. 5/10/2024 will be a focused retreat discussing the 2024 goals and mission and vision statements and well as discuss the grows and glows
 - i. EmBELLish concert, summer suppers,
 - j. Look for information on our website, in the monthly Tidings newsletter, weekly Wednesday Note, as well as during announcements before the 9:00 am service weekly
 - k. Review of the current Governing Board organization and structure
9. Financial reports: Liz Buhler shared an update regarding the current church financial status through the end of March. Outlined and provided details regarding

- a. Revenue: including pledges, prior year pledges, fundraising, and loose offering: in good shape,
 - b. Expenses: Local direct is currently over as we continue to pay for substitute organist through this account, which leaves salary as under, maintenance has contracts across the year. Overall, we are in really good shape
 - c. Restricted Funds: set aside for very specific reasons such as the \$12,000 raised and now earmarked for the MLKJr. Scholarship, as well as investments towards our capital roof project.
10. Settled Pastor Update: Nancy Hunt reported that the settled pastor search team has interviewed a number of candidates and met a lot of great people but not yet the right one for us. While she cannot share specifics, she asked for prayers for the team.
11. 3-Part series on racial allyship: Paul Helvig, Margaret Holmberg, Verna Swann, and Justine Lavoie shared details regarding the upcoming three-part series that will be held at the East Lym Public Library on 10/5/24, 11/2/24, and 12/7/24 and will be open to the public. This series will be sponsored by NCC and PARJE (Public Art for Racial Justice and Equity) has offered to fund this program.
12. Voices of the congregation shared by Lee Ireland, Kathy Leindecker, Marsha Swan, Stephanie Chan, and Frank Chan.
13. Pastor Erica offered a prayer of benediction
14. Motion made by Ocean Pellett and seconded by Craig Woody to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 11:15 am

Respectfully submitted by Mary Childs, NCC Clerk