**COUNCIL MINUTES: Sunday, 6-23-19 at 11:45 am**

Present: Don Benson, Marty Downie, Dale Fixsen, Ken Katzen, Claire Matheny, and Anne Yenchko

Absent: Sandy Gillen and Matt Norvell

Guest: Bonnie Orrison

Taking Minutes: Kathy Marshall

**AGENDA**

Claire led us in prayer.

**Appreciation/Recognitions were voiced.**

Marty provided the jest.

**Minutes**:

**MOTION was made and approved to accept the Council Minutes for May 19 2019.**

Minutes for the Executive Committee meeting via Zoom on June 20, 2019, were accepted.

(Motion not required.)

Don led reflections on recent events:

--The workshop by Martina Efodzi

--The 3 visitors this morning

--The labyrinth project has received the $5,000 seed money from KC's 2018 overage. Going forward, the rest of the cost will be funded by private donations only, not by funds from the KC budget.

**Community Meeting Update, June 30:**

There will be a shorter-than-usual service that morning, followed by the required business meeting. Lunch will be at 12 noon, an “indoor picnic” with food provided by Marty, Frank, Anne Yenchko, and Marion. Council provides hot dogs, hamburgers, buns, and condiments. Congregation is asked to provide side dishes.

**History and Records Management/Artifacts and Storage**:

Now that Jubilee is over, Bonnie O is eager to create a system for storing and retrieving the many heirloom photographs, records, documents, and items which were put on display. Now is the time to determine what gets kept, labeled, and stored safely for the next anniversary. The discussion was lengthy and included, but was not limited to the following:

--Where should the many banners be stored? Do we need a new storage closet?

--Neal Buck has offered to start digitizing photos and slides. How do we identify the people shown in them?

--Ken suggested Shawn Gladden of the Howard County Historical Society might be willing to consult with KC as to how to proceed to select, preserve, store, and retrieve our items

--The project is huge in scope. Anne suggested organizing it into smaller, more manageable sections. Saving is one thing, a retrieval system is another.

--Who gets to decide what is kept and what is discarded? Offer discards to congregation?

--How and who will determine the fate of physical historical items such as the kneeling bench and the original altar?

--Perhaps plans for this project could be the subject of the September 29 Community Meeting, eliciting valuable input from the congregation

--Claire would like to propose a permanent Heritage Wall display that would visibly communicate our history to the many people who come through our doors other than on a Sunday morning

Council agreed that Bonnie can let Neal proceed with digitizing the photographs, and discussed the hardware and software options available. Bonnie expressed her thanks for Council's time allowing her to be heard while our heritage items are still fresh in our minds and understanding.

Don expressed grateful thanks to both deceased members Chuck Joseph and Wally Howard, whose extensive prior work documenting parts of our history was invaluable to him, and a true blessing as he prepared the videos for Jubilee. Council agreed to call this The Heritage Project, and to search for someone to be the Knowledge Manager.

**Leadership Team Reports**

**Building and Grounds Leadership Team:**

Don reported that they are currently researching the purchase of 100 white folding chairs.

Anne thanked Marty and those who took the security training for being alert and aware Shepherds at Jubilee. Ongoing efforts to increase building security include Don working on upgrading to FIOS that is required for security camera installation. The need was discussed for holding conversations around security, and on obtaining a higher level of “threat awareness.” A fire drill is planned for July by a small group who will be trained on how to give instructions on emergency behavior and how to conduct a fire drill without heightening fear.

Don Benson will be handling the elevator certification process.

**Community Life Leadership Team:**

Ken brought 3 heritage-related issues to be discussed, but due to time constraints, only the issue of the logo was addressed. He presented two logo design possibilities for consideration which engendered lengthy discussions, after which one logo design was chosen.

**MOTION was made and approved to adopt and use the chosen logo for one year, during which time Council will be attentive to comments and feedback heard from the congregation and report said feedback to Council for evaluation.**

Community Life LT's other two issues were put on the Parking Lot.

**Vitality, Diversity, and Inclusion Leadership Team:**

The workshop held at KC on June 22, TransFormative: Cultivating Cultural Humility as a Spiritual Practice by Martina Efodzi, was such a success that the July Worship Task Group will ask Ms. Efdozi to bring a Sunday morning sharing to KC in July.

**Finance Leadership Team:**

Dale provided the Summary for 5-31-19, and noted the inadvertent error omitting the second deposit to the Labyrinth Fund. Financially, KC is where it needs to be halfway through the year. The Agape Fund needs approximately $9,000 to fund the program for next year, and, while weekly contributions received in June have been generous, there is still half a year ahead to receive further donations to reach the goal. The Jubilee spending was over budget by approximately $1,000 due to the rental of a large tent installed in the Sacred Garden to protect everyone from the forecast of rain. FLT recommended paying for this budget overage from the KC Rainy Day Fund.

**MOTION was made and approved to pay for the Jubilee tent rental from the KC Rainy Day Fund.**

**Human Resources Leadership Team**

Anne reported that HRLT is beginning to search for two new employees. Christin Downie, our Social Hour Assistant, will be leaving the area at the end of July. KC has benefited from her diligent service in this position, and will search for her replacement as soon as possible. KC will be looking also to fill a new position to be titled Facilities Manager. Building and Grounds Leadership Team is creating the job description and will work with Anne and her team to begin the search.

**Spiritual Education Leadership Team:**

Claire held a discernment meeting with the team on the Thursday before Jubilee, from which some new directions for the team emerged. To prepare participants for the November KC Retreat, it was suggested to promote the reading of Richard Rohr's book, The Universal Christ. Ken is talking with Trent Hall on the possibility of a children's class on Difficult Conversations. SELT is still discussing and trying to define this team's role in KC's life. They will meet again in July.

**Worship Leadership Team**

Sandy G noted that WLT is meeting this coming Tuesday to plan for the next quarter.

**Enabling Minister:**

Claire continues to provide detailed monthly reports to Council regarding her many activities on KC's behalf. This past month she delivered the homily for her grandmother's funeral in Jackson, MS. Locally, she participated in the Baltimore-Washington United Methodist Church Annual Conference, the Juneteenth Drumming and Healing Event, and Ms. Efodzi's workshop. She will attend Howard County's first Annual Pride Event. She and her family will vacation in Maine from June 30 to July 13.

**Parking Lot**:

--Determine history and discuss storage of the Rainbow Banner

--Discuss moving forward with the Labyrinth project

--Develop process for how to store and retrieve artifacts from Jubilee

--Make the Heritage Project the subject of the September quarterly meeting

--Enable Neal Buck to move forward with digitizing the historical photographs

--Discuss the production of a Heritage Wall for displaying KC history

--Bring comments and feedback on KC logo change to next Council

--Arrange for KC fire drill for July

--Begin planning for November retreat

--Prepare for building security update with FIOS and security cameras

--Plan for bronze plaque for the Sacred Garden, acknowledging our ancestors

--Consider a name change for Oliver's Carriage House, as the Olivers owned enslaved people, and, according to the Maryland Historical Trust and other records, neither built our building, named it, nor used it as a carriage house

--Search for Social Hour Assistant

--Search for Facilities Manager

Next meetings:

Executive Meeting – email suggestions to one another prior to Council meeting

Council Meeting – Thursday, July 18, 7:00 pm at Don Benson's

Facilitator – Don Chaplain – Matt

Jest – Marty Timekeeper - Dale

Process Observer – Ken Parking Lot - Anne