**COUNCIL MINUTES: Sunday, Aug. 22, 2021, 1:00 pm via Zoom**

Present: Rebecca Dietz, Normale Doyle, Dale Fixsen, Ken Katzen, Ellen King, Don Link, Bea Luzier, Kathy Marshall, and Claire Matheny

Absent: Vanessa Deutschmann

Guests: Don Benson, Bonnie Orrison, and Sandy Queen

Taking Minutes: Kathy Marshall

**Agenda**

Kathy led us in prayer.

Ellen greeted the guests.

Rebecca gave the jest.

Ellen reviewed the Agenda.

**Affirmations**

Ellen affirmed Theresa Gale and the Worship Leadership Team for their month-after-month meticulous attention to the changing needs of KC relating to COVID-19 concerns. She also affirmed the HR Leadership Team, Amy Sens, Harriet Katzen, and Kathy Marshall for their covering of KC needs during Claire's Renewal Time. Rebecca affirmed the Tech Team, having been able to observe first-hand on a Sunday the skills needed to provide the technical expertise to get KC digitally available to the many who Zoom in. Ken affirmed Dale's good work in keeping Council abreast of the COVID-19 updates in such a clear and succinct manner.

**Minutes**

**MOTION was made and approved to accept the Council Minutes for July 25, 2021.**

Council Executive Meeting Minutes for August 16, 2021 were accepted. (no motion required)

**Old Business**

**New Name of The Carriage House:**

Annora Bailey was the only person volunteering to assist in seeking out where and how the Carriage House name change needs to be noted, legally, financially, and otherwise. Ellen will put out another KC Announcement asking for help with this important project.

**New Business**

**Leadership Team Reports**

**Finance Leadership Team:**

Don Link reviewed the July 31, 2021 Summary report with Council, and stated that KC continues to do well financially. He encouraged the Leadership Teams to see how their team is doing by doing a monthly review of the report section titled Budget v. Actual, and to explore carefully the need to increase or decrease where applicable. Looking ahead to prepare for the 2022 budgeting process, Bonnie Orrison has requested via email that the teams review their expected expenses and submit them to FLT by the end of September. Don L reiterated the Finance Leadership Team's willingness to answer any questions regarding the budgeting process.

**Worship Leadership Team with the Technology Team**:

Theresa could not be present, but had submitted her report. Discussion on the issue of unvaccinated children who come to a worship service with their vaccinated parents. KC wants to be welcoming, but needs to have a policy and procedure for being inclusive of these families as much as possible, while keeping in mind the safety and health of all who attend. Theresa will be asked to continue the conversation in a WLT meeting and make recommendations to Council as to how to proceed. Ellen encouraged Council members to send Theresa your thoughts on the matter.

Sunday School Leader Sandy Queen asked for a discussion regarding the possible return of in-person Sunday School. She currently has an amazing group of 10 children on Zoom Sunday mornings, a number of whom would not or could not come in person to participate. Discussion on whether or not both can be done in our space. There are technical and logistical considerations to be worked around. Right now parents who arrive with unvaccinated children are invited to sit in the downstairs area. Don Link pointed out the need to be prepared with a policy on handling unexpected visitors, both adults and children. The current KC attendance policy is clearly stated on the website, but not everyone would have read it before showing up for a worship experience. Bonnie O noted that the Sunday Greeter is put in an awkward position when unexpected visitors are not familiar with the KC attendance policy. Rebecca would like there to be a discussion about possibly inviting a sign-up option for folks who would be willing to experience worship downstairs with families with unvaccinated children. (The Greeter would then at least not feel like they were asking folks to worship totally alone). She is aware it is possible that given COVID-19 risks, there would not be enough persons to sign up for such a group.

Bea asked if we could ask other churches how they are handling this issue. Again, the Worship Leadership Team is tasked with the ongoing search for a solution.

**Building and Grounds Leadership Team:**

A KC Announcement email was sent soliciting attendees for the full Barn Work Day with lunch served, on September 6, 2021 from 8:00 to 12 noon. Dale noted the team is soliciting items for the Agenda for the day. Let him know of any particular repair that you have noticed needs to be addressed that day.

**Community Life Leadership Team:**

Normale presented the CLLT proposal to create a Committed Worshipper Status, and discussion followed. Noting that the idea seemed useful but the terminology was lacking in clarity, (Committed v. Non-Committed?) she was asked to take the proposal back to CLLT and bring it back to Council next month with the new verbiage. Rebecca would like Sandy Queen’s suggestion to be included, that Sojourners could be a possible name for the “committed worshipers", as well as the suggestion that whatever name is chosen would not have an opposite that could be construed as negative.

Ken had submitted an update for VDI, and there were no further questions.

**Human Resources Leadership Team:**

HR chairperson Anne Yenchko met with Pastor Claire to discuss her reentry and to process any issues of concern. To have had time to spend with family and time to renew her strength and energy has meant a great deal to Pastor Claire and she is extremely grateful to the Kittamaqundi Community for the opportunity.

We extend gratefulness to Kathy Marshall and Harriet Katzen for providing time in the office during Pastor Claire’s time away. The directions and assistance from Amy were greatly appreciated.

We extend our thankfulness and appreciation to Rev. Amy Sens for working with the Worship Task Groups, Sharing, and serving as our Worship Consultant.

Amy returns as our Office Administrator on August 15, 2021.

**Spiritual Enrichment Leadership Team:**

SELT is taking a hiatus until September.

**Policies and Procedures Update:**

Normale, for the Community Life Leadership Team, presented their completed update of the CLLT Policies and Procedures. Normale reminded Council that she will be adding a table of contents to each submission once all LT updates have been received. She asked for Council to approve the CLLT submission, and after discussion,

**MOTION was made and approved to accept the 2021 Policies and Procedures update from the Community Life Leadership Team.**

**Council Member Resignation:**

Ellen noted the receipt of the resignation of Christian Hurley from Council due to family matters that required his presence and attention. Ellen expressed her thanks to Chris for his service.

**Patio Brick Record Keeping**:

Bonnie O led the discussion about trying to collect a complete record of who purchased which bricks when. Though many of the over 100 bricks remain undocumented, Bonnie was able to document many from 2014 going forward, as well as the very first brick, given in December 2006 for Dot Uhlman. She asked for help in completing the records, and Sandy Q offered to photograph all the bricks so that Bonnie can prepare at least an alphabetical list by title of the bricks that exist. Rebecca noted the historical significance of the records that will be found, as they relate to KC history. Don B offered that a completed brick list would be a good companion to the list of planting dedications in the Sacred Garden that Elaine Buderer has kept.

**Enabling Minister's Report**:

Claire expressed her gratitude for the Renewal Time. She's going through the voluminous number of emails and encouraged Council to contact her again if you sent a message to her and have not received a response. She is back to re-engaging in many areas and asked that Council members not hesitate to reach out if you need her.

**KC Crosses**:

Don B asked for the status of the new KC crosses that Jack Dunlavey will be creating. Bea agreed to contact Jack, and report back to Council on where the project stands.

**Rental Team**:

Sandy Q and Don B reported on various events that have happened at the Carriage House. Don B reports being pleased with all the social media postings being done through our 411/Wedding Spot contract, saying “they really know how to make the pages sparkle.” Sandy implemented a very successful Coffee and Conversation event for vendors to come experience our beautiful venue. Our name and reputation are spreading, attracting a Hindu wedding this month, and a Muslim wedding next month. Ellen reminded Council she will be holding another Yarn Swap event in the KC parking lot. And our repeat renters, Toastmasters, and the Maryland Professional Photographers Association continue their monthly rentals of the building, with participants masked and socially distanced.

The Annual Commitment Retreat is usually held in November, but due to a wedding being previously scheduled for that weekend, October 30 was chosen to hold the Retreat. The wedding has canceled, and discussion took place on whether or not to move the Annual Recommitment Retreat into November. The consensus was to let the Retreat remain on October 30, and Claire will confirm the date with the Retreat Committee which is meeting this coming week.

**Parking Lot:**

--September Council to discuss Agenda for Oct 3 Community Meeting

Kathy gave the closing prayer.

**Assignments for September 26, 2021 Council Meeting**

Facilitator – Ellen Chaplain – Don L

Jest – Kathy Process Observer – Ken

Timekeeper – Vanessa Parking Lot - Ellen

Dates to Remember:

September Executive Meeting - TBD

9-26-21 September Council Meeting, Sunday, via Zoom at 1:00 pm

10-3-21 Quarterly Community Meeting, Sunday, via Zoom at 1:00

Annual Recommitment Retreat – Saturday, October 30

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Marshall, Council Secretary