

First Presbyterian Church of DuPage

Session Minutes for September 5, 2023

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

In attendance: Kelly Jean Norris (Moderator), Ruth Nauta (Clerk), Roy Altonen, Walt Cowan, Bob Buegel, Jerry DeYoung, Jim Nauta, Patt Pilgrim, and Don Crebo.

Absent: Sampson Akotuah

Meeting opened with K.J. Norris giving prayer and devotion from James 3:13-18.

Clerk's Report (Elder Ruth Nauta)

- July minutes were approved
- Communion: 51 in person served for August and 46 for September. No pastoral visits with communion.
- Volunteers to set up and clean up for communion in October are Patt Pilgrim and Ruth Nauta. Need to get Welch's grape juice.
- Please remember to fill out the sheet and get it to clerk for the minutes each month.
- No funerals, baptisms or weddings. Former member Rebecca Aguilera is asking to be married at our church. Officiant information to follow.
- Motion made by Patt Pilgrim for another 2-month trial of passing plates for communion. James Nauta seconded motion. Passed by all present.
- Georges Couloute, Robert Contreras and Deacon Linda Altonen attended class on passing communion. Motion made by Walt Cowan to allow them to pass communion. Jerry DeYoung seconded motion. Passed by all.

Financial (Elder Jerry DeYoung)

- Legacy Fund is to be moved to New Covenant Trust. \$ 35,000 removed from Legacy Fund to cover Furnace brain and to cover other bills as transfer is taking place.
- Other expenses remain on track with budget with electricity running high.

Pastor's Report: (K.J. Norris, Pastor)

Inter-Generational Committee (Co-Chairs Patt Pilgrim and Sampson Akotuah)

- Safe Church policy was written in 2005 and has not been updated since. Patt Pilgrim and K.J. Norris have been going thru policy. Session discussed policy in much detail.
- First draft of policy and changes and revisions discussed. Tentative approval of policy and discussed changes -motion given by Walt Cowan

and seconded by Don Crebo.

- Changes to page 12 of policy for Mandatory requirement for Volunteers to be active members of FPCD for a minimum of 6 months; or there can be exception with approval of session even when volunteers come from another church with similar programs.
- PC(USA) does offer free training to work with children. Training needs to be repeated yearly. Training records will be monitored by HR Committee or Inter-Generational committee.
- Tentative approval of policy with changes discussed and additional changes possible to come.
- Part II- a section of policy on Response is planned for next month.
- Training of leaders' program for consideration/ vote—Praesidium.

HR Committee Update (Elder Walt Cowan)

- Job descriptions have been updated.
- Reviews are beginning.

Preparations for Congregational Meeting in November

- Motion made to have Bob Beugel be the Elder Rep. on Nominating Committee by Walt Cowan and seconded by Don Crebo. Passed by all.
- Deacon Rep. Jennifer Harrison. Members: Ben Asiedu, Veronica Downard, and Jacob Schenkl.
- Finance Committee will be meeting to work on budget for next year. (1st meeting is tentatively Sept. 28). If you have projects that you want to be considered, please give an explanation and a suggested budget amount to Chair of Finance, Jerry DeYoung.

Stewardship Committee (Elder Roy Altonen)

- Need to watch video from Presbyterian Foundation found at <https://www.presbyterianfoundation.org/stewardship-kaleidoscope-2017-2/>

General Updates:

- Marie's Gold project (Micro Pantry) has been installed just outside front entrance of church. Wants to have a dedication in March.
- The "Brain" is being installed next week- as a result there will be no heat or air conditioning on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday.
- Church of Ghana news:
 - Catechist Martin is in the ordination process and is now officially Pastor Martin Anon.

- The church has been contacted about having joint worship services; we are waiting to hear back.
- The Boy Scouts have agreed to partner with Trunk or Treat- date set for Oct. 27 5:30- 7:30 pm with a bonfire to follow.
- Presbyterian Peacemaker Angie Wuysang will be staying with Pastor K.J. Sept. 19-21. Angie will be giving a presentation on her country of Indonesia on Sept. 20 at 7pm. at FPCD.
- Mike Allen wrote a letter reminding us of our call to communicate, be transparent, and follow the vision GOD has given us. Copy of his letter has been given to each member of session to be read and give feedback or thoughts.

Closing Prayer & Schedule:

Next Session Meeting: Thursday, October 12 at 6:30pm. Please have meeting agenda items & minutes to Pastor K.J. By Tuesday, October 10. Meeting closed at 9:12pm by prayer by K.J.Norris.

Minutes written by Ruth Nauta (Clerk).