

**Minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting of the  
Congregational Church of West Medford, United Church of Christ**

**DBA Sanctuary United Church of Christ**

**February 1, 2015**

The meeting took place as part of the worship

Officially opened at 10:30am when Paul Roberts presented his report.

10:38: vote to accept first 4 dots of financial report. Carol motions, Bruce seconds

10:40: Passed unanimously

Rev. Wendy presents ministry model

11:09 Paul presents proposed budget

11:18: Carol motions for budget vote, Julie seconds, passes

11:20 Jen motions to generosity policy, carol seconds

Discussion on motion:

- Paul- on actual income, not stocks, pledges and other income
- Amend wording to include: pledging, actual yield from investments, from other programming, excluding Bright Starts and Mission fundraising

11:35: motion passes

11:38: Kathy makes motion to send \$25,000 to Remember for their campaign, Joy seconds

Discussion:

- Kathy: “we haven’t asked for contribution before; all money has been fundraised
- Reason asking now is because they are holding a capital campaign
- One time donation
- Bev c.: we discussed sending \$10-15 thousand or a more moderate number.
- Paul: motions for an amendment to \$15,000, Bev C. seconds
- Kathy: “what difference does \$10,000 make?”
- Carol: wants to make sure that this decision doesn’t effect a later vote (for example, Bright Stars)
- Bev C.: concerned about giving such a big number; we could go back and give more later when better established.
- Deb D.: we have the resources to make a big one time donation.
- Rev. Wendy: This is our money. “giving is sacrifice”
- Vina: \$15,000 is a more comfortable number and still generous. We can see in a year where we are and could give more. We might find we have hit a ceiling.
- Ose: Take the risk of 25K

- Joy: People that have gone to Remember have benefitted. 25k is a way of giving back what they have given us. We can afford it with what we got for the church
- Paul call to question, Joe seconds
- Amanda: Why are we not doing a silent vote
- Kathy: not a church policy, we should own our votes.
- Vote on amendment: 11 in favor, 8 no
- Open to discussion on 15k, no discussion
- Joy: Amend to 20k, Jen second
- Julie: Likes compromise for our spirits, only a 5k difference
- Bev C.: feel pressured to go to 20k
- Kathy: anyone can vote the way they want
- Vote: 14 in favor of amendment to 20k, 2 opposed, 3 abstentions

12:00: Motion to give 20K to Remember, 17 agree, 0 opposed, 2 abstain

Pass

12:04: Kim presents Bright Stars report

- Joy: are we agreeing to a 2 year plan?
- Kim: no, just keep it in mind
- Joy: how do we know this is going to work?
- Kim: we don't. Everything is a gamble. There are a lot of changes
- Wendy: feels like now there is some energy around it; people are willing to make it a mission
- Kathy: Kim has done a great job. She is winning her over to the plan
- Kim: we are the most affordable option in Medford
- Paul calls to question, Carol seconds, Passed
- Motion to proceed with Bright stars as proposed
- Passes unanimously

10 Minute Break

12:25: Rev. Wendy makes a motion for Bronwyn L. Cook and Elizabeth Benedict to become parish members, Bruce seconds

12:28: pass

12:29: Budget open for discussion

- Kathy: question in staff. Do we need to community organizing position?
- Wendy: role designed to be short term, they will train us on what to do and will be in community to make our presence known
- Kathy: are we funding Tom when other churches use him too?
- Wendy: yes they pay him too
- Joy: Steve- what is his deal?
- Wendy: \$18/hr, 10 hours a week

- Kathy: Yoga is by donation, they pay us we pay her. We would take a loss. People coming are paying?
- Joy: Music, why \$25k
- Wendy: left the number as everything is in flux
- Joy: and facilities?
- Wendy and Paul: need to have money to rent space as we grow
- Joy: Snow removal 2k?
- Wendy: for parsonage

12:48: Motion for a budget of \$457, 858.51 and passed

12:50: Motion for officers minus Jenny Briggs, Passed

#### Bylaws

- Kathy: discuss what membership means; deacons no longer required because of ministry teams
- Motion to table by laws by Bruce, Carol seconds, passed

1:00: Paul proposes to extend Wendy's contract through Dec. 2016

Null and void if violates contract

This is to assure her and her family of housing and income

- Joy: how much notice do we give?
- Paul: 3 months
- Carol moves the motion, Brenda seconds, passes

1:05: move to adjourn

Done!