

Shell Ridge Community Church
200 La Casa Via, Walnut Creek
Minutes – Coordinating Council Meeting, March 14, 2017

Attending: Karen Duran, Elizabeth Murphy, Marilyn Michelson, Mary Hogan, Sean McLaren, Lenita Shumaker, William Fuentes, Betty deKat, Linda Rae Hardwick, Wendy Neale, Jeremy Carlton, Lesa Adams

Absent: Karen DeWeese, Meg Verga

Meeting opened at 7:00pm.

February meeting minutes were approved with changes.

Treasurer’s Report

February 2017

Year -To-Date	Actual YTD Feb 2017	Budget YTD Feb 2017	Over (Under) Budget
Givers of Record - Pledge	\$28,812	\$20,395	\$8,417
Givers of Record - Non - Pledge	\$4,490	\$2,738	\$1,752
Total Revenues	\$39,394	\$29,433	\$9,960
Total Disbursements	\$24,297	\$28,647	\$(4,350)
Revenues more (less) than Disbursed	\$15,096	\$786	\$14,310

The 2017 year continues with a positive contribution of \$10,869 with Revenues of \$24,004 and Disbursements of \$13,135. The Givers of Record Pledged showed a significant increase of \$8,417 over budget because some people took advantage of making a contribution from their IRA directly to SRCC, thus saving taxable income. It will be absorbed as the months progress.

Disbursements were under budget with several items budgeted which have not yet been spent including the Office Administrator expenses. Mylinda Baits was paid \$200 for Pulpit Supply on March 3rd which was budgeted in a later month. Growth & Outreach spent \$250 to be a sponsor for the ABCUSA convention in Portland, OR this year.

On the Fund Balance Report, offerings were received for the Communion Fund, Food Bank, Let’s Feed The Kids, and the Retired Ministers and Missionary Offering (RMMO). The Million Book Fund received \$100 in interest and distributed 10 student grants for \$125 each for books. Staff also received year end love gifts.

The Communion Fund has about \$3,000 in it. Karen noted that a few years back the council agreed that if we had over \$2,500 in that fund, the money above that amount could be used for other things. There was discussion that in our community, \$2,500 may not actually be enough to be helpful, particularly with housing costs.

Pastor's Report

Jeremy has kept busy with Sunday preaching, Ash Wednesday service planning, coordinating with visiting missionary, Mylinda Baits, production of the quarterly Ridge Runner and other office administration and planning. He has led two Theology on Tap sessions.

Significant time has been spent reviewing office administrator resumes and then interviews. Suzanne Smith has been hired and started March 14th. Jeremy will be training her over the next few weeks and her usual hours will be 8am to noon, Monday through Friday. She will be responsible for the weekly bulletin, inserts, church directory, and Ridge Runner, among other things.

Jeremy has updated the church website and council meeting minutes are now available on it.

Carol Eklund has agreed to lead a choir for Easter. There will be four rehearsals leading up to the Easter service. With the Lent season, Jeremy has four significant services to conduct in the coming weeks.

Sara is pulling long hours during the tax season, so Jeremy is being supportive of her and also caring for Avery.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Office Administrator – See Pastor's report.

Church Parking Lot

American Asphalt has agreed to reduce their bid to \$75,000. Marilyn and Dick have reviewed our resources and agree that we have the money available in our investment accounts, however, we should still offer the congregation the opportunity to commit any additional resources.

The commitment to spend this money will require a congregational vote. Karen suggested we schedule a church business meeting for April 23. The proposal to the congregation will be put together at the next council meeting.

American Asphalt won't be able to begin work until late April or the beginning of May.

Council Meeting Minutes are now being uploaded onto the church website.

MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS

Stewardship Report - None

Facilities Report

Thanks to everyone who helped with the work day. Work performed included painting of the overflow room, installation of blinds in the cry room and overflow room, installation of siding, window cleaning, organizing the utility closet, installation of walkway lights and lights on the peace pole, and some gardening.

A facilities email address has been opened so there is one central location where facilities issues can be submitted and for proposals from vendors received.

Comcast will be upgrading internet service so Wi-Fi will be available in the Sanctuary and to the congregation.

Congregational Care Report

Meg Verga may need meals in April (following surgery) and Chris may need rides.

Christian Education Report

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for July 10 – 14 but waiting to hear back from families and staff to confirm those dates are good. The theme is Catch a Wave. A banner sign has been designed but not ordered as yet.

SALT Report

Wendy reminds the SALT team at the start of each meeting of our church mission to be a healing and just church.

The team would like to change their name from SALT to PMJ4A - Promoting Mercy and Justice for All. This was discussed and led to the following motion.

Motion: To change the name of the SALT Team to the Mercy and Justice Team.

Votes: Motion was made by Wendy Neale. Seconded by Mary Hogan. All in attendance were in favor. None opposed.

The name change will be made known at the next church business meeting.

The team has prioritized a list of projects and the top three are:

Immigration – in partnership with MICA (Multifaith Immigration Coalition for Action)
El Salvador - Partnering with a church there
Montego Housing – our neighbors

An Immigration meeting is scheduled on March 26, at noon, Bob Lane from MICA will be the guest speaker. A light lunch will be served and Shared Ministries congregations have also been invited. Susie and William Fuentes have been asked to prepare questions for the speaker.

El Salvador – Pastor Ruth has been contacted regarding ways we can help. She provided 8 projects and has since been asked to prioritize them and provide more information on her top choices. Pastor Ruth would love someone there for their 150th anniversary in May.

Casa Montego – Sandy is working with Barbara Condie to identify needs and opportunities.

The team is drafting a Mission budget. At their next meeting on March 29th they will come up with a proposal then invite input from the congregation. Mary Hogan has been researching what we have given to in the past. Wendy proposes April 2nd for congregational input.

Worship Report

The Worship team met on February 26th. A Communion preparation schedule has been issued. Worship team and usher training was held March 12th. The team's focus is to "Make a Memory." Events don't have to be big, they just need to be nice. If we do something well enough, it energizes those who are doing it and those who get to enjoy it. They are planning on doing special events for Easter, Thanksgiving and sometime in the summer.

Regarding Easter, it was decided to host a "special expanded" coffee hour and Easter Egg hunt following Worship rather than our usual Easter Brunch / Breakfast. This will allow our attention to be with any visitors as well as give everyone an opportunity to enjoy Easter with their families.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

American Baptist Women Ministries

ABWM friends are going to take the train to Portland to the ABC- USA Mission Summit. Lenita and Dick are taking the train there and invite others to do so with them. They will be attending the ABW events only.

Pastoral Relations Report

None.

NEW BUSINESS

ABC- USA Mission Summit (formerly known as the Bi-Annual meeting)

Nancy Smith registered as a delegate. Karen will ask Doug and Micky Holmes if one of them would be SRCC's second delegate. Hearing back from delegates was reiterated. Delegates must attend all business meetings and participate in any voting.

Yard Sale

Lenita suggested every other year for the yard sale. The next one will be in 2018. We should let people know in advance there will be no yard sale this year so people know not to store stuff for it. Jeremy will also update the list of where things can be donated.

Congregational Meeting – Music

Our congregation needs to decide what it wants to do about music. Do we need to have another congregational conversation about this or a small group gathering? Or, does this discussion belong with the Worship team?

How to De-Clutter Your Church for More Effective Ministry

Along with the meeting agenda, Karen distributed How to De-Clutter Your Church for More Effective Ministry. She asked the council to consider what we would be willing to let go of if we want to add something new and introduced the Closet Rule: don't add new ministries until you're willing to lose an old ministry.

Immigrant Day

William Fuentes proposed a celebration of immigrants event. As Pentecost (June 4) will be a day to recognize different cultures, perhaps the celebration could be held in June. Dancing, food, and artists were just some of the ideas generated to create an international celebration.

Team Meeting Notes

All committees should be submitting meeting notes to church office. Linda Rae suggested that committee reports would save council time. Wendy also suggested that this would help with calendaring.

Church Membership

There were no membership changes in the month of February.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted electronically by Elizabeth Vines Murphy, Church Clerk