

Zion United Church of Christ Annual Congregational Meeting March 12,2023

1. Called to order by James Cousins, Chair, Board of Trustees at 11:11 AM
2. Quorum was present (counted by Barbara Miller)
3. Opening prayer was done by Pastor Duffy
4. James Cousins reviewed the Robert's Rules of Order (page 18 of the booklet)

A. Old Business:

- a. Review and Approval of Congregational Meeting Minutes of 2022 (pages 8-9 of the booklet)

Susan Clark moved to accept the minutes. Ray Greiner seconded. The motion was approved by the entire congregation that was present.

- b. Review and Approval and Debate of 2022 Committee Reports:

Tim Schlegel opened a debate on the committee reports and Barb Miller seconded.

Tim Schlegel wanted it to be mentioned that the committees are all run by volunteers. He used examples like Mark Burr who is running the Food Pantry on Mondays and the new garden put in by the Environmental Ministry Team.

Reverend Pierre Albrecht-Carrie' made a motion to accept the reports (except Trustees report which was separate). Edie Bauer seconded. The motion was approved by the entire congregation that was present.

B. New Business:

Bylaw Amendments:

The following Bylaw Amendments are recommended by the Pastor and Consistory. The Pastor discussed what they Amendments were and that she was the one that recommended them added for the future protection of the church. The first change is a response to events that have occurred in other churches in our Association.

1. "Article V. The Pastor" of our bylaws.

Under Article V. The Pastor, C. Termination of Service

- a. first, change that to read: "C. Suspension or Termination of Service"

The following statement to be added after the existing paragraph in section C. "If a minister is suspended by the Church and Ministry Committee (Committee on Ministry), they are immediately suspended without pay from Zion United Church of Christ. If a minister's ordination standing is terminated by the Church and Ministry Committee (Committee on Ministry), the pastor is immediately terminated by the church."

- b. Amend "Article XI. Functions" of our Bylaws.

Note: It currently reads: "Alcohol or any illegal behaviors are not permitted on church property. Smoking is not permitted within twenty-five (25) feet of any church entrance and change to: "Alcohol, marijuana, or any illegal behaviors are not permitted on church property.

Smoking is not permitted within twenty-five (25) feet of any church entrance

A debate/questions was opened by James Cousins and Barbara Miller seconded it. Reverend Pierre Albrecht-Carrie' thought the sentence, Church, and Ministry Committee (Committee on Ministry) should have added to it, of the Western Association of New York Conference of the United Church of Christ in the two places where it states the "Church and Ministry Committee (Committee on Ministry)".

James Cousins questioned adding marijuana to the second recommended amendment as New York State has legalized marijuana. Pastor answered that although it is legal, the church does not want it brought in and used on our church property.

James Cousins stated that two thirds of the majority is needed to approve the first and second recommended amendments.

The motion to close the debate/questions was made by Elena Camp and seconded by Susan House. The motion was approved by the entire congregation that was present.

Reverend Pierre Albrecht-Carrie 'made a motion to approve the first Amendment(a) to read, Church and Ministry Committee (Committee on Ministry) of the Western Association of New York Conference of the United Church of Christ in both spots as recorded above. Laurie Mittlefehldt seconded, and the congregation voted unanimously in favor of the change.

The second amendment (b), Diane Miltz made a motion to approve the addition of the wording: "Alcohol, marijuana, or any illegal behaviors are not permitted on church property. Debbie Grine seconded, and the congregation voted unanimously in favor of the change.

c. Nomination of Board of Trustees vacancy:

- Consistory nominees are Kalee Mielke, Reverend Pierre Albrecht-Carrie' and Dave

Dombrowski

- Trustee nominee is Dave Dubbert

A debate/questions was opened by Tim Schlegel and seconded by James Cousins. Tim Schlegel thanked them for volunteering.

A motion to close the debate was made by Edie Bauer and Sarah Handley-Cousins. The motion to close was approved by the entire congregation that was present. Motion to approve all nominations by the present congregation was unanimously approved.

d. Approval/Debate of the 2023 FY Budget:

- The treasurer's report is located on page 12-13 of the booklet and any changes suggested are highlighted.
- Ed Miller opened it up for debate with George Drescher seconding.
- Tim Schlegel raised concern over the Pastor's salary. That she was only receiving a .9 percent increase for everything she does while other staff were getting a 5% pay increase. Pastor asked if we would leave her salary alone as it is over minimum guidance guidelines and she we could revisit the issue in next year's budget.
- Motion was made to close debate/questions by Tim Schlegel and Doug King and the motion to close debate was approved by the entire congregation that was present
- The motion to approve the budget was made by Mike Thorp and seconded by John Pauling. The budget was unanimously accepted by the congregation that was present.

e. Trustees Summary (is on page 17 of booklet)

Ted Camp (Trustee Secretary) presented:

1. Current Balance and Breakdown
2. Projects Completed
3. Projects Pending
4. Long Range Projects-10-year plan
5. Summary/questions

Susan House stated that the Sacristy Room need to be upgraded and Pastor Duffy said that the Consistory would be handling.

Glen Gordon (on Zoom) asked if there were any future plans for large signage to be added to the other side of the church property. James Cousins said no plans have been made for this.

Ted Camp did note that the parking lot renovations do have smaller signage that will be put in place.

Sarah Handley Cousins asked about the remodeling plans for the Narthex and a coffee bar. James Cousins said the church infrastructure is difficult and updating the building will mean some things will need to be torn off and taken down

Mike Thorp asked who the church historian was now that Char Burchfield is gone.

Jeff Quinton volunteered to be the Church Historian.

James Cousin stated that Trustees are going through with certification by the Red Cross to be a warming station for emergencies.

Lori Juliano mentioned that the stove in the kitchen needs to be replaced. James Cousins asked Laurie Mittlefehldt to add this to her list for Trustees to look at.

- f. Motion was made to adjourn by Reverend Pierre Albrecht-Carrie' and seconded by Dave Dombrowski. It was passed unanimously by the congregation that was present.
- g. Benediction- Pastor Duffy
- h. The meeting officially adjourned at 12:14 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debby Williams
Consistory Secretary