

Minutes of the Church Council Meeting – January 15, 2023 FINAL



David Stirrat, Moderator	X	Julie Traverso, VM	✓	Cynthia Eggers, At Large	✓
Rowena Abulencia, Clerk	✓	Barton Smith, WSL	✓	Al Martin, WSL	✓
Paul Brown, Treasurer	✓	Helen Heal, At Large	✓	Betsy Ashman, Fin Secretary	✓
Patty Foster, Care	✓	Keenan Foster, Care	✓	Jason Hubbard, Ex Officio	✓

The meeting was held in person, called to order at approximately 11:38 am by JTraverso who conducted the meeting in the absence of David S and started after a prayerful welcome in the Fellowship Hall.

December 3, 2022 Council retreat minutes were approved on a motion/seconded by BSmith/AMartin with two abstentions.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Motion by JOTraverso/seconded by BSmith to accept the consent agenda reports from the CARE Branch, Worship & Spiritual Life, Moderator’s Report, and the Pastor’s was approved. (7 approvals; 3 abstentions)
 - 1) Clarification followed between consent agenda and reports.
 - a) Consent agenda reports: are those submitted by members to the consent agenda
 - i) Last month’s financials
 - ii) 2023 budget – separate discussion
 - iii) Need motion to accept/receive reports; not approve.
 - b) A consent agenda – contains various reports which folks can review; accept as read, but some items need further consideration.

OTHER ACTION ITEMS

1. Council to respond or not to a recent all church letter from a church member.
 - a. Opportunities for education of our congregation re: covenant and use of all church email as well importance of Council acknowledging letters was stressed.
2. A motion by JTraverso/seconded by BSmith to update the In Person Gathering Guidelines for restricted tier to show that we may keep doors closed in inclement and cold weather in any given Sunday or event beyond Christmas Eve was approved. (10 approvals, no abstentions)
3. A motion by JTraverso/seconded by HHeal to recommend and discuss the budget and narrative to the congregation at the Feb 5 Annual Meeting was approved

Discussion ensued:

Members of the congregation need to understand the seriousness of this investment for the future. Why are we taking this move? Why are we here? How do we share this? What are we doing to invite more folks to our congregation and extend this invitation to the community? Our ancestors’ vision, are we a listening church who listen to their community?

4. Motion: Council vote to recommend to the congregation the approval of the budget as amended.
Unanimous approval: 10

5. Motion: Council vote to recommend to the congregation approval of using the 150K of various moneys in addition to what we raise in what Capital Campaign team will recommend the spending of all amounts received/pledged from congregation as it continues to be pledged.
Unanimous approval: 10

Action Items 01/15/23	Owner (s)	Status (pending/in process/completed)
<p><u>Google Drive access: challenges</u> <u>/access/systematizing electronic documents</u> <u>Who needs support in Documents</u> All those not mentioned are "OK" with document access. Helen: Need support that is working for everyone. Betsy: Needs a tutorial with her laptop in hand. Paul: Can access but does not know what he is accessing - needs instruction - will not bring laptop to meetings. Julie: Does not want to sit in a meeting with a laptop - strong need to improve access. BAB identified as the branch responsible for moving action on this forward.</p>	<p>DStirrat/JOTraverso/ "BAB"</p>	<p>Pending</p>
<p>JOTraverso will make sure that all members got the reports including the financials.</p>	<p>JTraverse</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>RAbulencia send note to DStirrat if he has acknowledged receipt of letters to the writers?</p>	<p>RAbulencia</p>	<p>Completed; DStirrat's acknowledgment attached to this document</p>
<p>RAbulencia, PJason and JOTraverso to get materials ready for the Feb. 5 Council meeting and send out by January 27</p>	<p>RA/PJH/JT</p>	<p>Completed; sent out on 1/25</p>
<p>Paper copies re: congregational meeting materials need to be sent to Marilyn Linnell and Heidi Jones.</p>	<p>RAbulencia</p>	<p>Completed</p>

Next Council meeting: February 19 after church at 11:30 am. The meeting was adjourned by a blessing from Pr. Jason at 1:27 pm

Respectfully submitted by Rowena Abulencia, Clerk

Letter from David Stirrat to David Carballal

To: David Stirrat <oriole88@hotmail.com>

Hi David

All is well. Hope the same for you and the family

Thanks for the acknowledgement. Hope the conversation goes well beyond Council

If you still need any transition support still, please reach out

Take good care

David

On Wednesday, November 30, 2022 at 06:28:16 AM PST, David Stirrat <oriole88@hotmail.com> wrote:

Hello David,

Hope all is well with you guys. I'm just sending a quick acknowledgement of your email from 11/7/22 sent to the congregation. As the council gets together, we'll certainly discuss the issues you raised.

Hope your Thanksgiving was excellent. Christmas is almost here!

David S.

From: David Carballal <dcarballal@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 7, 2022 8:49 AM
To: Your Friends at UCCP <uccpetaluma@gmail.com>
Subject: Final Outgoing Moderator's Note

Dear UCC Petaluma Congregation,

Please see attached the following final note from me as outgoing moderator

Blessings

David Carballal

Letter from David Stirrat to Mary Alden

Re: Letter to UCCP Church Council

Mary A <msj349@gmail.com>

Mon 11/28/2022 9:13 PM

To: David Stirrat <oriole88@hotmail.com>

Thank you for your email, David. I appreciated an acknowledgement from Cynthia and Paul who contacted me soon after I sent the message.

Our Thanksgiving was very quiet and we are looking forward to family time over Christmas holidays.

Best wishes to you and yours during this holiday season.

Mary Alden
510-708-7118 (C)

On Mon, Nov 28, 2022, 10:43 AM David Stirrat <oriole88@hotmail.com> wrote:
Hello Mary,

I just wanted to reply on behalf of the council in case you hadn't heard from anyone
😊 Thanks for your heartfelt note. When the council meets again, we will go over your thoughts and discuss any updates.

Hope your Thanksgiving was excellent and looking forward to Christmas season.

David Stirrat

From: Mary A <msj349@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, November 5, 2022 1:02 AM

To: David Stirrat <oriole88@hotmail.com>; Julie Traverso <julie.traverso@gmail.com>; Rowena Abulencia <sonoma_mommy@gmail.com>; Paul Brown <PBrown@adobeinc.com>; Betsy Ashman <bashman1@comcast.net>; Patricia and Keenan Foster <kameleon2524@comcast.net>; Al Martin <petalumaboy1947@gmail.com>; Barton Smith <TheCommunityGuru@gmail.com>; Helen Heal <phbheal@sonic.net>; Cynthia Eggers <caggers49@comcast.net>

Cc: Jason Hubbard <jhubbs64@gmail.com>

Subject: Letter to UCCP Church Council

Dear UCCP Church Council,

After much deliberation I decided to send a letter that may be of some help to you, from a personnel perspective, as you work together in the coming year.

Thank you for stepping up to help UCCP more forward successfully,

Mary Alden, ex-Member at Large
510-708-7118 (cell)