

Union Church of South Bristol – Official Board Minutes – December 20, 2015

Present: Beth Hood, Priscilla Glendinning, Don Maunz, Connie Kennedy, Linda Brunner, Norman Wright and Lori Wright

Linda called the meeting to order.

Lori had previously emailed secretary's minutes and treasurer's reports to the Board members. By motion by Norman with a second by Connie, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved. By motion by Norman and seconded by Don the treasurer's report was also approved. Lori reported that there was still no invoice from Adam Libby for the installation of the wood stove at the parsonage. Linda provided her with Adam's telephone number so she may call him directly for the invoice. Priscilla requested detailed reports on payments made on behalf of the church.

Linda reported that Chester Rice repaired the driveway, and she called to thank him. We will have to redo the paving in the spring.

The parish hall septic tank has been pumped. John Prior has been paid.

Linda responded to the letter from Ulises Hernandez, USPS representative. She has received a response from them. However, she doesn't think there was ever an official report from Modern Pest. It is possible it was just a verbal report from Modern Pest when they were here providing monthly rodent service. Linda feels the post office is satisfied with what we are doing.

Kenny Lincoln recommended that one window on the back and one window on the front of the parish hall be replaced. He has ordered the windows (estimate \$1,650). He will install them as soon as he can.

When Linda spoke with Aaron from Master Clean, he didn't think cleaning was necessary – need the larger humidifier, not a portable unit, but one that will drain automatically. Linda will call him back to ask whether or not one unit will be sufficient for the office and post office or would two smaller units be better. Don checked online and the Santa Fe Advance units are good quality and the price he provided is the same as what Don found online.

The foam insulation has been done and paid \$1,460 (\$820 initial deposit and \$640 balance) as New England Spray Foam will process the \$1,000 rebate.

The renewal of the post office lease was discussed. The amount of the lease is less than the current lease and based on \$11.50 per square foot. The annual lease rate for five years, beginning 8/1/2016, would be \$12,087. There is also a one-time five-year renewal option of \$12,691 or \$12.07 per square foot. By motion of Connie and seconded by Priscilla, the Board voted to unanimously to sign the new lease.

The tenant is not living in the parsonage this winter, and her friend, Bill, checks on it. The question was asked if the current lease allows the tenant to sublet the lease. This information will be brought to the next meeting.

With regard to the church heating, Don talked with Pat Parent. We should consider an outside chimney. An energy audit would cost hundreds of dollars. The estimate for the outside chimney is \$3,200. We can further investigate the cost to move the furnace. The cost of a heat pump system would be very expensive

- \$35,000 because of the large space with the cathedral ceiling. Heat pumps run on electricity. The new propane furnaces were also very expensive. The most economical way is the outside chimney. Appearance wise, it won't be as pleasant. It can be enclosed but that makes the dimension much bigger. The pipe can be painted with a metal spray paint that holds up very well. Both Linda and Don will talk with the congregation to let them know, see how they react and then vote on what to do.

With regard to payments for the use of the parish hall and sanctuary, Linda talked with Judy Falconer, who commented that we should charge more for weddings than funerals. Ann Kash from St. Andrews said that they have some set fees, but AA pays whatever they can. Lori noted that AA is looser with their donations, but does make several donations throughout the year. Priscilla spoke that she also went to St. Andrews and Second Congregational in Newcastle. We are less for some fees and in less demand. We should consider how many seats the church has. With regard to the request to rent space by Kathryn Kennedy for Yoga, she has been offered a space in Walpole of \$15 per hour. Concerts like DaPonte should be pay and sometimes the church would receive a good will offering.

Beth noted that the emphasis shouldn't be on income. Priscilla suggested we see how she does the first month and then base what she is charged on the number of people who attend. There has been a yoga class offered in the summer, and the instructor gives the church a donation at the end of the summer. Linda will talk with Kathryn.

Norman mentioned the parish hall being very dark outside. The current yard light doesn't work. John McGowan may be laid up, who can install? Perhaps a timer, sunset to sunup, light would be the best. We need a licensed electrician to install and Connie suggested Paul Scott from Nobleboro.

Norman will disconnect the outside hose before it freezes.

Connie moved to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Wright, Treasurer