Skyland Community Church

Minutes of the Council Meeting on October 15, 2023

Members present: Reverend Melanie, Anne Evans, Gina Palmer, Jackie Seymour, Gerald Alonzo, John Conkle, Jeremy Cole, John Heyes

John C. opened the meeting at 1:04 p.m.
Opening Prayer: Reverend Melanie
Behavioral Covenant: Jeremy Cole
Approval of the minutes of the September 24, 2023, meeting: Jeremy moved to approve, Gina seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

- Gerald noted that pledges and offerings are still below expectation; however, one recent lump-sum pledge will offset this shortfall;
- Total expenses are only a little on the "negative" side: the recent large water bill reflects a few months when the billing was not sent to the church's P.O. box;
- The value of our investments has dipped in keeping with recent market trends.

Old Business: John H. expressed concern about noise and fumes from the taco truck at the September Celebration. To avoid this matter in the future, John C. proposed that we offer the vendors electrical power for their generator.

New Business: John C.

A. <u>New Art and Music Program</u>

- Rev. Melanie reported that it will involve more art than music;
- A young adult will be hired to supervise once a month, with a second adult also present;
- Jamie, one of Rev. Melanie's adult children, is experienced in these activities and is a candidate;
- Appropriate background checks will be required;
- Four families, including seven or eight children, are currently "on board";
- The young ones will be in the sanctuary until after the "Words for Children," then go to Whitaker for their projects;
- The program is set to start in November.

B. <u>Bell Tower Railing</u>

- John C. asked Council members to offer opinions on the materials to be used: wood or iron?
- Railings will be installed on both sides of the steps;
- After an exchange of views, members voted 5 to 1 in favor of iron, with one abstention.

John C. noted that an additional propane tank may be needed when the backup generator is installed.
John C. closed the meeting at 1:48 p.m.
Closing prayer: Rev. Melanie
Next Council Meeting: Sunday, November 19, at 1:00 p.m.
Minutes submitted by John Heyes, clerk