

**Hamline Church United Methodist
Church Council Meeting Minutes
February 27, 2024, 7pm**

Attendance: Rev. Mariah Furness Tollgaard, Gil Young (Moderator), Angela Wolf Scott (Secretary), Kyle Pennington, Aaron Anderson, Adine Momoh Baillet, Janet Beneke, Priscilla Luitjens, Stephanie Jones, Pete Theisen

Others Attending: Stephanie Engebrecht, Heather Grantham, Diane Krueger, Elizabeth Kulus, Liliana Letran-Garcia, JoEllen Ambrose, Julie Elder, Kim Schwichtenberg, Nora Bedard, Steve Bloom, Amy Ireland, Karen

Introductions

Gil Young opened the meeting and asked everyone to share their dream job on chat.

Consent Agenda

Gil Young asked the council to consider the Consent Agenda, which included the minutes of the January council meeting. Pete Theisen moved to accept the Consent Agenda in its entirety. Aaron Anderson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Discussion Agenda

Faithful Hospitality – Interfaith Action Mobile Shelter

Liliana Letran-Garcia, CEO Interfaith and Elizabeth Kulus Community Engagement, Advocacy and Volunteer Strategy Manager introduced the Faithful Hospitality pilot program and answered our questions.

They work with three houses of worship (20-24 people at each site – families only). Families start off at Day Center (Central Presbyterian in St. Paul) and get showers and meals there. We'll need volunteers per night to be a presence at the church and provide support if families need it (7 pm – 7 am). Staff member from Interfaith Action arrives on-site first and will facilitate families coming in every day. There is a staff person on-call all night. Volunteers apply and get trained (do not need to know Spanish). Volunteers do not need to be awake all night. Volunteers should be over 18. Younger volunteers (16 or 17 year olds) are OK, if they're responsible and with a caregiver. Interfaith works with volunteers to prepare.

Families will be with Faithful Hospitality 3-6 months. Large community space or at least in the same part of the building is ideal. They have large dividers to put up between families. We're looking at using the Community Room. We're working to assemble a leadership team, that team will help to assess if we can do one month or two consecutive months (which Interfaith has asked for, if possible). The weekend schedule is slightly different: 7pm-8am.

Hamline is considering participation as a mobile shelter in April 2024. We will need to have volunteers (2 per night, plus a coordination leadership team). We have strong early interest for volunteers. Stipend of \$5000 per month for participating.

Kyle Pennington moved to approve participation in Faithful Hospitality pilot program. Aaron Anderson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Student Ministries Vision Summit Report

Pastor Mariah shared the summary of the visioning process completed over the weekend with Ministry Architects. The work of last weekend serves to articulate the mission and vision of student ministries at Hamline.

Miracle Grow Lease Update

Pastor Mariah updated council on the Miracle Grow's lease. The lease terms are currently 24 months for four classrooms at \$5600/month (with 3% inflation on the second year). Each party has the option to give six months' notice to terminate early. We will continue to market the property and have signed with the broker. It may take 8-12 months to find a new tenant, making this short-term lease mutually beneficial. With council approval of the Faithful Hospitality program, Stephanie will share our participation in that program with Miracle Grow.

SPRC Update – closed session

Pastor Mariah convened a meeting of the SPRC. Non-council members were dismissed. Pastor Mariah shared a few updates. Sharon will start March 1st. Adjusting our custodial needs with Stephanie cutting back on hours. This will be part of Sharon's responsibility.

Adine Momoh Baillet moved to adjourn the meeting. Pete Theisen seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Gil Young adjourned the meeting at 8:19 pm.

Mariah closed us out in prayer.

Notes by Angela Wolf Scott