

## **Hamline Church United Methodist Church Council Meeting Minutes**

### **September 22, 2026 - 7:00pm**

Mariah Tollgaard, Sharon Fields, Brian Lulek, Gil Young, Jay Alexander, Peter Quayle, Amy Ireland, Angela Wolf Scott, Becky Omdahl, Douglas Gardner, Emma Close, Kathy Schill, Miriam Friesen

**7:03** Amy called the meeting to order. She asked the check-in question What pumpkin spice item would you choose?

#### **7:11 Consent Agenda** Minutes (att 02. Minutes August 2026)

Growth Grant Extension into 2027 – Sacred Reckonings (att 03. Sacred Reckonings Grant Extension)  
Growth Grant- Monroe Crossing & Austin Channing Brown (att 04. Music and Arts Growth Grant)  
Growth Grant - Teaching Internship (att 05. Teaching Intern Growth Grant). Gil moved to approve.  
Kathy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**7:12 Discussion Agenda** HU Campus Relations Hamline University & Hamline Church Interim Agreement (att 06. MOU Hamline Church & HU) - Mariah discussed the chaplain situation at HU. The most recent chaplain resigned. Mariah and Heather will help with around 15 hours a week. They'll be doing ceremonial duties, Methodist Church connections, campus ministry, etc. HU will pay for a portion of the time. Hamline Church will also look for additional pastoral care. It is going to be two people for around \$1000 per month. Interim Congregational Care (att 09. Interim Pastor of Congregational Care). Amy asked for an approval for the Memorandum of Understanding recommended by SPRC. Kathy moved. Jay seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

NEON at the University of Minnesota - Mariah discussed NEON at U of M and trying to connect HU students to the program. NEON is doing great work that is connecting with students and its a great opportunity to connect the HU community to others.

Mariah also mentioned meeting with HU facilities folks. They discussed two open lots & the plan to build student housing. There was discussion on how that will impact our space and the garden.

Finance Update - ERC Funds Transfer Recommendation (att 07. ERC Funds Transfer). Sharon discussed All In One Accounting updates. She said that the tools are working. Gillian will be working on producing reports for the council. She also mentioned we don't have any Dining Hall updates. Kathy discussed where we are financially and how we'll end the year. She said we are operating on thin lines. She also talked about the plan for ERC Funds Transfer of \$37,000. Jay asked what the pinch is. Kathy mentioned the lack of revenue from no tenant (\$70,000). She also said we delayed our quarterly apportionments to the conference (\$85,000). ERC funds will close some of the gap. Amy asked for a move to approve the ERC Funds Transfer Recommendation by request of the Finance Committee. Becky moved to approve. Angela seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Trustees - (att 08. Leasing Activity Report) Mariah gave an update on the tenant search. It has been mostly childcare providers looking at the space. A potential family shelter looked but they didn't have a contract yet. They also wanted to provide space for 50-60 people daily but that didn't work with our space. People like the classrooms and the parking. They have mentioned the office is musty. We may replace the carpet to help update that.

Facilities project updates - Sharon mentioned that Commercial Roofing has done all their work. She also mentioned that we have made a downpayment on the flooring. We are waiting for an update on the availability of material. We are waiting for a quote on adding the office flooring to the whole job. We're also chasing boiler people to get it worked on & turned on.

SPRC closed session - Mariah mentioned the Interim Congregational Care item again (Interim Congregational Care (att 09. Interim Pastor of Congregational Care) and the plan to announce the information to the congregation.

**8:00 Adjourn & Closing Prayer** Jay moved to adjourn. Gil seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Mariah closed in prayer.

*Important Dates:*

- *Sept 24 – M&A Evening with Austin Channing Brown*
- *Sept 29 – Community Dialogue: Exploring the Power of our Stories*
- *Oct 25 – Fall Festival with Trunk or Treat*
- *Nov 1 – Beginning of Stewardship Campaign*
- *Nov 15 – Town Hall Forum*
- *Nov 15 or 21 (TBD) - Joint Church Conference*
- *Nov 22 – Stewardship Commitment Potluck & Celebration*

***Next Meeting –Tuesday, October 27 at 7:00pm***