

Minutes

Kent United Church of Christ Special Council Meeting (via Zoom)

October 7, 2021

Present: Jaime Baughman (past moderator), Karen Carmany, Becky Dunlap, Glenn Hanniford, Barb Hanniford, Donna Hess, John Hetrick, Sue Otterson (vice moderator), Jackie Peck, Jeff Roeger (moderator), Sally Saltzman, Julie Wallace, Pastor Amy (ex officio)

Jeff called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm, beginning with a brief time of silence. He said that the meeting's purpose was to consider a proposal for purchasing audio visual equipment to live stream our worship services. He wanted to recognize the tremendous efforts of Julie Swango, Felicia Lumpkin, and Kim Redman to do live streaming since we began worshipping in person.

Glenn provided background on the proposal, describing the process of gathering information and input and seeking proposals. The quote received from Woodsy's Music has been reviewed by Julie, Felicia, Pastor Amy, Corey, and Glenn, and approved by the Worship and the Arts Ministry for recommending to Council. The motion also includes purchasing a computer and presentation software that would be in addition to the equipment Woodsy's will supply.

Glenn then introduced this motion:

The Worship and Arts Ministry proposes an expenditure of approximately \$15,000 to purchase A/V streaming equipment for the church sanctuary, including the installation and training. The proposed system will be constructed by Woodsy's Music. (This includes a Kent UCC quote from Woodsy's of approximately \$13,000 and an Apple IMac computer and pro-presenter presentation software purchased directly by the church for about \$2,000). Funding for this project will include the \$10,000 technology grant from the Living Water Association of the United Church of Christ awarded to Kent UCC and other funds provided by the church.

As discussion opened, Jeff shared that he had talked with Sally about the possible source of other church funds. Because there are more than enough donations left over from the lighting project, he recommends that donors be contacted to see if any object to using some of the surplus toward the AV project. There are about 25 donors, and he would contact them by email and give them a week to let him know of any objection. Council members supported this approach. A friendly amendment resulted in the revised motion reading as follows:

The Worship and Arts Ministry proposes an expenditure of approximately \$15,000 to purchase A/V streaming equipment for the church sanctuary, including the installation and training. The proposed system will be constructed by Woodsy's Music. (This includes a Kent UCC quote from Woodsy's of approximately \$13,000 and an Apple IMac computer and pro-presenter presentation software purchased directly by the church for about \$2,000). Funding for this project will include the \$10,000 technology grant from the Living Water Association of the United Church of Christ awarded to Kent UCC and surplus from the lighting project, subject to donor approval.

Glenn has talked with Paul Braden from Woodsy's. We simply need to let him know that we want to proceed. Paperwork can follow. The timeline will be based on the availability of materials. The quote includes initial training for those learning the system. If further training is needed, there may be an additional cost.

A question was asked about capabilities that we do not have now. Glenn said that it will only take two operators due to camera positioning. Two cameras will be on tripods and therefore moveable.

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One will be fixed. The system could be moved to the chapel in the summer. It was noted that a lot of the equipment we are currently using is Julie and Felicia's, not our own.

Another question concerned whether we want to train more people to operate the system. Glenn replied that we definitely need to identify more volunteers to be trained. Our goal would be to have more than one team of operators.

After discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Pastor Amy suggested that it might be appropriate to identify someone (perhaps a high school student) who can operate the system on a consistent basis. We have been paying a stipend in the past and may want to budget this in the future. We would still need other volunteers. There was general support for this possibility.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Hanniford, Clerk