

7th Annual Congregational Meeting 11/6/2011

The meeting was initiated by Keith at 11:25 am. It was well attended with participation throughout the meeting by Board Members and congregants. Board Members in attendance were Keith Corban, Nancy Aten, Patrick Jolly, and Patty Johnson. Absent was Diana Basché. Keith had three items on his agenda: election of officers, the fiscal state of the church and Patrick's bonus, and the Cowboy Poetry Event as regarding the church's involvement.

I. Election of officers.

1. After offering other alternatives with no response, Keith nominated himself as President. It was seconded by Patty and passed unanimously.

2. As a formality, Keith moved that Patrick remain the Secretary of the Board, which was seconded by several people and passed unanimously; no negatives votes or abstentions.

3. Patty has been serving as Treasurer since August, and although Patty suggested that she had other obligations and would prefer not to keep that position because of upcoming commitments, no one stepped forward to replace her. Patty agreed to continue as Treasurer with Marie Parola as backup Treasurer. Betty DeMaegt made the motion. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Patty and Marie were thanked for their willingness to serve. Keith thanked Patty specifically for the time and effort in keeping the books and reconciling the account.

4. Nancy was asked if she would continue as Member at Large, and she agreed. It was asked what the responsibilities for a "member at large" and Keith explained that a 'member at large' could temporarily fill in any position when necessary and sign checks if necessary. The reason we had five officers instead of three, Keith added, was so that despite a transitory congregation if there was a church issue that needed Board attention there would be a sufficient quorum to make a decision. Discussion ensued regarding the general lack of formal meeting required by the Board. Despite only one face to face meeting, most conferences were through email. Keith made a motion to keep Nancy as a Member at Large; it was passed unanimously.

5. Diana's position was opened and CJ declined to be nominated because of upcoming obligations. Warner asked about the requirements of the position. Keith explained that there were no formal requirements other than attending the church fairly regularly. Warner then offered to take the position and this movement was seconded by Patrick. It passed unanimously.

6. Keith concluded the elections and stated that he had a form from the State for adding the new officers' names and addresses for legal purposes.

II. Church Finances

As supplied by Patty:
Treasurer's Report

Nov 1, 2010 to Oct. 31, 2011

Income	
Offerings: 52 weeks	\$21,167.20
Rent from piano	\$250.00
Donation (Selix Acquisition)	<u>\$60.00</u>
Sub Total	\$21,477.20
Petty Cash	<u>\$28.74</u>
Total for Year	<u>\$21,505.94</u>
Expenses (Itemized below)	\$13,587.27
Balance	\$7,918.67
Balance Forward from 11.1.10	\$4,790.13
Total Balance	\$12,708.80 (checking: balances with bank)
Itemized Expenses:	
Speakers	\$9,800.00
Rent	\$2,388.00
Coffee	\$780.00
Insurance	\$358.00
PO Box rental	\$44.00
Deposit Slips	\$23.49
Returned Checks and fees	\$43.50
Piano Tuning	\$95.00
To adjust with bank	\$55.28
Money Market Balance (current)	\$6,989.44 as of 9/30/11

Patty explained that we had an increase in offerings and detailed each line item. A donation came in from Selix Acquisition, a tuxedo rental company. They had a charitable program that benefited our church. We are paid up for rent through 12/31. Patty suggested using the bank's deposit slips rather than purchasing them. The piano tuning was less than last time. She also said that there is \$55.28 that is on the ledger that she cannot find in the bank statement.

The most recent money market statement was not available. Keith said we typically keep in the checking account the amount of anticipated expenses for the year. Extra can go into the money market. Warner asked about the money market tracking and earnings. Keith said there was no formal tracking of performance. Discussion: The church could consider a CD. The Board may look into this. Keith thanked Patty for her report.

Keith again reiterated the church's desire to set aside one year's expenses. He said if you did that calculation it would leave about \$6200 that would be split between Patrick's bonus and charitable giving. Warner asked if Patrick's pay was sufficient. Keith tentatively suggested we give Patrick a permanent increase of \$250 a month in lieu of a bonus. Much discussion ensued lead by Nancy, Suzanne and others regarding the fiduciary responsibility of the Board and following formal protocol for particularly important and influential matters. A motion was made by Maria to move the discussion to the Board for a recommendation and then bring it back to the congregation. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

III. Cowboy Poetry Church Event

Keith explained that the first year's event was new and the form was uncertain, but the Genoa Community Church would convene at the Town Hall for service, with Patrick as the Pastor. Last year impromptu negotiations were made last minute and the church lost money on the event. While the first year we split the offerings with the event and our portion was \$600 from the collection after fighting for it. This past year the church lost all offerings. Patrick still had to be paid, which came out of the church's checkbook, and the building still had to be rented. It was the Town, and not the Event, that negotiated in 2011.

Keith proposed that we have an agreement beforehand. The Event Chairperson had not been announced yet for negotiations. The Town Manager took that roll last year, explained Keith, and that was where we got in trouble. Much discussion ensued, lead by Suzanne, Warner, Nancy, Bill, Lawry, and others. Suzanne proposed that Patrick get paid through the event and the offerings be split 50/50 between the Event and the church. Ideas were suggested: have contracts and policies established prior to the event; alternative locations be considered during the event and for a new permanent location; a letter be sent to the Town outlining the church's position.... Nancy proposed that the Church Board come to a resolution with all the suggestions that had been proposed and direct Keith to negotiate up front to deal with the Town regarding the costs of the event, specifically that the church have a positive fiscal outcome beyond our expenses. Discussion ensued. Keith said that he was perfectly fine negotiating on behalf of the church and would approach the Entertainment Chair for the event.

Bill brought up the fact that the Town has agreed to reimburse the church for times it was not used and have never followed through. Keith thought they still owed us \$150.

The previous motion made by Nancy was summarized by Keith. More discussion: ensure we have a positive fiscal outcome, make checks payable to GCC at the event. The motion was voted on and passed.

IV. Other

Nancy encouraged the importance of asking people to sign up in advance for setting up and tearing down the church.

Warner suggested that we "choose happiness." Keith concluded the meeting at 12:22.