**Orinda Community Church**

**Minutes of Church Council
Wednesday, August 24, 2022**

**Council Attendance:** Anne Barr, Bill Abriel, Kathleen Wiegand, Bob Winbigler, Gail Mead, Mitch Breitwieser

**Clergy Attending:** Elizabeth Robinson

**Minutes:** The 7/27/22 minutes were approved by email on 8/2/22

**Pastor’s Report:** Rev. Elizabeth Robinson had an annual planning session with David Milnes and Barry Cammer. Meg Nichols has agreed to represent OCC on the Holden Board. We need to get our ministries/committees fully staffed and functioning again as Covid procedures relax. We need to get more people involved to get the work of the church done. Elizabeth is spending too much of her time trying to get people to help and then using her days off to catch up. Bill Abriel will meet with Elizabeth tomorrow on these recruitment issues. Anne Barr will also help with recruiting volunteers. Elizabeth feels we should have a visioning person meet with us to discuss changes and how we want to define ourselves now. She’ll find someone to work with us on this.

Designing our Children and Youth program is an ongoing challenge. Elisabeth Kersten will run another youth session in November if the August session works out. Each family has excellent ideas regarding the youth program but the ideas aren’t mutual among the families. Youth and young adults have very separate needs and we need to address the needs of all ages. There’s been no feedback on our job posting. Do we need/want a traditional person here every week or here less for specific things? Gillian Murphy-Stephans will be available to meet with families 10/9 to offer spiritual training for our youth. They can ask questions and deepen their spirituality. Anne Barr volunteered to help with prep for the spiritual coaching session. Elizabeth mentioned there have been some recent nice dinners, garden events, and field trips for congregants to enjoy. She is taking a week’s vacation next week.

**Treasurer’s Update:** Lani Shepp emailed Council her Treasurer’s Report as she was absent from the Council meeting. Highlights are as follows. Pledges for the first six months are at 44%, but should increase after the summer slump. Expenses seem to be appropriate. Several costs have come up during the year that were unexpected; some will make certain areas go over budget. Les Simmonds will replace some of our exit signs that are no longer functional. Peter Hartdegen has arranged to have all of our panic door bars renovated. **NOTE**: On August 15, 2022, via email, Council approved the expenditure of $2500 for the repair and upgrade of all OCC’s panic door bars. Next 80 is moving ahead in several areas (walkway sealing along sanctuary, plus painting; water line replacement; hillside landscaping; TOPS windows; lower lawn drainage).

**Auction Discussion:** After discussing timing, methods, and personnel we decided to hold a Fall Fundraiser. There will be an online auction the first week of November, ending Saturday 11/5. On Sunday 11/6, there will be live auction in the Fellowship Hall for some categories (e.g. dinners, sewing circle items), a light lunch, and a pick up party for online winnings. Gail Mead will handle the online auction, renew the auction software, and will talk to Trudy Garland about handling the live auction items. Care and Fellowship will handle the food with Bill Abriel and Chris Mead manning the grill. Elizabeth Robinson will have Anna Gregory send out a save the date. Bill will put out a bucket on 11/6 to collect 2023 pledges (stewardship).

**Staffing Updates:** Elizabeth Robinson reported Lucina and Lucas are conscientious in their security checks of the facility. Bill Abriel indicated they find unlocked doors every night. We will need to give them fair warning when they need to move out of the cottage. We’ll have a better idea of the timeline for the hillside project in 30 days and will let Lucina know as soon as possible. We’re aiming to give her multiple months notice to vacate. We do not need to have Kelly Younger sign Lucina’s contract for the cottage. Bill will send (done) the maintenance agreement for Greg Hartdegen to the Council for a review before it’s signed. We need to post notice (Bill to oversee) for a weekend caretaker for ad hoc events (next one is in November). Lucina and Lucas don’t want to handle these duties. Vangie Abriel (C&F leader) is working on a volunteer list for Sunday refreshments (one ministry/committee per month).

**At-Large Member Reports:** Mitch Breitwieser reported LL&S had its first meeting under his leadership; it was inspiring. Members include In Suk Kim-Andersen, Gary Nye, Gail Mead, Katrina Staten, Roger Samuelsen, and Mary Volmer. Mary will continue to do Alta Vista. Roger will schedule people to do spiritual journey second hours. Mitch wants to meet every four to six weeks, if possible. He welcomes feedback on topics for second hours.

**Vice Moderator’s Report:** Bill Abriel is updating the ministry/committee members list.

**Next 80 Item:** Gail Mead and Anne Barr are finalizing the TOPS lease which is up September 1. TOPS has painted and done new flooring. They’ll fund an HVAC system since their rooms are hot in the afternoon. Next 80 will work with TOPS and possibly pay for any new additional electrical work needed with the HVAC. This will be added to the lease as an addendum when we know more.

**ACTIONS:**

Bill-meet with Rev. Elizabeth on recruitment issues (volunteers)

Anne-help with prep for 10/9 spiritual coaching session

Gail-talk to Trudy Garland about working the live 11/6 Fall Fundraiser

Gail-renew the auction software; set up the online auction

Elizabeth-have Anna send out a save the date for the 11/6 Fall Fundraiser/pickup

Bill-have bucket at 11/6 Fall Fundraiser to collect 2023 pledges (stewardship)

Bill-oversee posting the notice for a weekend caretaker

Next Meeting: Wednesday, Sept 21, 2022; 7:00 pm (moved up from 9/28/22)

Kathleen Wiegand, Clerk