

Peace UCC Governing Body 12-12-2023

In-person 6 pm. Peace Hall: Cindy Tesdall, Bob Karr, Judy Connolly, Jeff Davis, Sarah Webster, Tina Robbins, Ted Loucks, Wendy Bruner. Joni Resides, Carol Reinhard, Mickey Clarke, Summer Wise (via FaceTime)

Opening: Carol and Sarah: Sarah helped us celebrate Wendy's 8 years with Peace as we each reflected on "and yet."

Approval of minutes: 11-28-23 Motion: Judy Second: Ted Vote: Unanimous

Lease Update: Wendy/Cindy), 204 update (Tina) **Motion:** Joni **Second:** Sarah The GB will accept the new conditions for next year's lease with Eden, which includes no 2.75% increase for the year, a reduction in rent from \$140,000 to \$124, 550 based usage of Press Hall and to begin the abatement of 50% of our renovations costs. **Vote:** Unanimous

Tina is completing arrangements with No Room at the Inn to use the 204 E. Lockwood space for storage with that group paying utilities and maintaining the grounds.

Peace Place Update - next steps/where do we go now? The committee from the GB will meet with the MHDC to gather information about why our request for tax credits was not granted. There are other avenues of funding to explore. No recommendation will be made to the congregation in January as we still need further data.

Budget Update: Ted shared several cost saving changes to the budget. Staff will not accept any raises this year. Some of the 204 expenses will eventually be covered by storage use. Jen will devote some time to accounting to reduce our external expenses. The result is a projected \$140,000 deficit. **Motion:** Ted moved that the GB recommend to the congregation to apply for a loan of \$300,000 (which would be the maximum needed over 2 years) against the 204 property from Cornerstone, a U.C.C. resource. **Second:** Bob. **Vote:** Unanimous

Congregational meeting planning – There will be three informational meetings for the congregation before the January 21st Congregational meeting: after service on January 7th and 9th and a Zoom meeting on January 14th at 6:00 PM.

Wrap up/Closing and Adjournment: **Motion:** Judy **Second:** Ted **Vote:** Unanimous

Executive session

