

# Hopkins Community Church

## Consistory Meeting Minutes

### May 17, 2021 at 7:00 PM

**Members Present:** Pastor Jon, Pastor Jim, Dick Boverhof, Sally Burgess, Kyle Hoffmaster, Dan Kisner, Curt Leep, Troy Clement, Joel Eding, Rich Huizinga, Eric Porter, Tyler VanderSyde.

**Members Absent:** Mike Maule

**Opening Prayer:** Pastor Jon

**Approval of Agenda: Amended to add Jim Fredricks to speak at the meeting.** Motion to approve agenda made by Sally B; supported by Tyler V; no discussion, all in favor.

**Approval of April 2021 Minutes:** Motion to accept minutes made by Eric P; supported by Dick B; all in favor.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Employment Contract** – Faith Reurink. Contract was presented to Consistory to sign off on and this was sent around the table for signatures. She has hit the ground running and is very excited!

**Pastor Jim Employment Contract** – Jim was excused from the meeting during a time of discussion. In review, we reflected on the fact Jim came on board in just as Covid became an issue (Feb 2020) and he has faithfully ministered to HCC all during Covid. His initial contract is good through Feb 2022. Temporary contract with added hours will be up May 31, 2021

#### **Decisions to make:**

- 1) Renew the temporary contract for a second time?
- 2) Resume the initial contract, reverting back to 10 hours per week?

Discussion took place and questions were asked as to where Jim would like to be and what his plans might be for the future and 2022. Administrative costs were brought up and discussed, and with the current budget it is felt that an extension of the added hours per week continued past May 31, 2021 would not hurt our financial situation. Reflection was made on the good things we see happening because of Jim. He has been a true asset, touching people in ways that most cannot so it is felt that he is a necessity. A church of our size does find it hard to pay pastoral costs and if we see a decrease in giving this could be a potential issue. We will be fine for 2021 and can continue to support the ministry work that Jim is providing HCC.

Motion made by Sally to keep Pastor Jim Harrison at 20 hours per week, which is an extension of his initial contract again that adds on 10 hours per week, to run through December 31, 2021. This motion was supported by Kyle. No discussion and all in favor.

**Proposal made by Jim Fredricks** – Jim came to the Consistory meeting to address the concerns over lack of space (storage and meeting areas) that HCC has been struggling with. It is no secret that there are concerns by many over the lack of room we have for various programs and storage issues. He is asking for approval by the Consistory to pursue quotes for adding on to the current youth barn/Cadet workshop. He is envisioning a building of around 30x50 that would potentially have 4-5 classrooms, a storage room and that would be multi-functional for use by the church. Several Consistory members asked some questions and reflection was offered as to issues in the past with space as well as how this could potentially be financed, and some assessment given about the current financial situation and cost of lumber in the country. Pastor Jon offered that the Consistory should have a time of discussion and everyone thanked Jim for coming to the meeting to present this option. After Jim departed, Pastor Jon encouraged the Consistory to take a step back, consider the transitional period the church is currently in (potentially hiring a full-time pastor for Youth and Families this summer) and that there is a good deal of unknowns. It was decided that this is definitely something for consideration and perhaps now is not the most ideal time, so the discussion was tabled for the time being and it will be kept on the horizon for future discussion and discernment.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### **COVID-19 Response Reflection and Continuing Action**

- **Outdoor worship** – last month the question of having outdoor worship for the summer was brought up. We would be essentially moving into missional worship and all of our worship would be held outside, weather permitting. There may still be a good deal of people struggling with coming back inside after a full year of Covid issues and this may offer the transition and time needed to adjust back to in person worship. We would meet outside Memorial Day – Labor Day. Service time would be 9:30 AM. We can revisit this at the June meeting to assess and have feedback as to how it's going. Communion would stay the same as it is now (offered in sealed, single serve packaging). All were in favor of doing this.
- **Russo's Alternative Church Option** – review of options for having Sunday worship displayed on the screen at Russo's and how this would work for the church. They are open again for breakfast on Sundays. Tabling this option until summer is finished, and outdoor worship is over and then perhaps we can take a bit more time to think on this intentionally and have a better plan put together.

## **MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS**

### **Elders' Report**

- Elders have made contact with various families and individuals who have not been coming to church in person. The desire is to acknowledge why this is happening and to walk beside those who are still having a difficult time coming back to meeting in person, or perhaps struggling with other issues. Continuing to reach out and to minister to them.
- District Meetings will be held in June
- Membership request was made by Nicole Johnson
- Baptism and Profession of Faith request was made by Chase Laarman
- The Jason and Amanda Reed's membership was transferred from Corinth Reformed Church to HCC along with their three children: Jayden (confessing/ baptized) and Owen and Hope (baptized). It is Pastor Jon's intent to have a welcome service for the newer families and members who have recently joined HCC.
- Pastor Jon brought up the need to have a portable baptismal tub, which we had discussed and approved last year. He plans to proceed with the purchase of one for HCC.

### **Deacon's Report**

- **HCC Talent Pool List** is still a work in progress. Not quite certain how to get information from people and put this resource together to be utilized when a need arises. After some brief discussion, the deacons will put together some information they want on the form and Kathy will assist in getting the form out to the church.
- **Sober House/ Rectify Request (Pastor Sarah):** assistance was approved to help with their request. Joel will follow up with Pastor Sarah and communicate with her on this further.

### **Finance Report**

The April financial report was handed out and received by all Consistory members. The giving shortage is slowly being reduced.

### **Search Team Report**

- Faith Reurink is our new Worship Intern as of May 1, 2021.
- Interviews took place for two individuals for the Youth and Families pastoral position. One will return for another interview on Sunday.
- Following the second interview, the next step will be having the Search Committee meet with Consistory.
- Meal and time of fellowship for a chance to meet and greet the recommended candidate.
- Talk to the congregation about the candidate.
- Possibly also have District meetings.
- Pastor Jon mentioned that it is extremely likely this timeline would take place prior to the June consistory meeting. He encouraged all members to watch their email for further updates and information and to keep in touch on this.

### **Outreach Team**

- The May blood drive was good.
- Good turn-out and participation with the Community Clean-up event! Thank you to all who helped!
- Our next blood drive is scheduled for July 6.
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July will be celebrated on Sunday, July 4 by the community. We are planning to lead the worship service in the park during the pancake breakfast (9 AM) and have a float in the parade (5 PM). Pastor Jon is working on some of the final details in the next week and will get that information out to the church soon.

### **Security Team**

- Training will be held from 6-9 PM on Wednesday. Officer Matt toured the facility and was impressed as to how the building was set up from a visual standpoint.

### **Worship Team**

- The stage area was re-purposed and the piano was moved out of the sanctuary. However, the Hopkids group will be singing and Mary H plays the piano, so she would like it moved back as well as tuned. It has been a long time since the piano was tuned so she will handle that. The Yamaha Clavinova keyboard is not being used and there may be some consideration in selling it in the future.

### **Property Team**

- The canopy light bulbs were replaced (Kevin)
- Metal doors were ordered as the original doors are rusted almost all the way through in spots. They will be painted temporarily until the new doors can be installed.
- Basketball pole and backboard will be installed soon by the youth barn (Kevin).

**Motion made to adjourn meeting: Kyle H.**

**Motion supported: Sally B. All in favor.**

**Meeting adjourned: 9:04 PM**

**Next Meeting: May 17, 2020 at 7:00 PM**

**Closing Prayer: Pastor Jon**

Minutes submitted by Kathy Westendorp