

**ROSER MEMORIAL COMMUNITY CHURCH  
COUNCIL MEETING  
August 23, 2023**

In Attendance: Jim Bennington, Glenda Beck, Beth Bernet, Cherrie Birkman, David Cheshire, Dianne and Doug DeLong, Dan Divine, Andy DeVries, Barb & Dale Dohner, Kathleen Geist-Eskew, Dave Haddox, Gary Hickerson, Jean Knopp, Bill Marini, Cathy Meehan, Peggy Nash, Sherry Oehler, Gretchen Petraske, Donna Pope, Lorna Smilde-Powers, Cass Robertson, Dirk Rodgers, Darrel & Sue Shinn, John & Sharon Skladany, Dick Walter, Alan Ward.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Cathy Meehan, Chair of the Congregation, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The meeting was held remotely by Zoom.

**Joys & Concerns** were shared. Pastor Dirk opened the meeting with prayer.

**APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES from 07/26/23**

There were no corrections to the minutes.

**MOTION by Darrel Shinn to accept the minutes from 7/26/23 as published.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Dave Haddox**

**MOTION PASSED**

**ANNOUNCEMENT - Cathy Meehan**

Cathy sent an email saying we need to be respectful of each other's time. So, going forward, all topics for discussion need to be brought to Cathy's attention before Council meetings. This applies to both new topics coming from your Board or Committee and any topic outside of your B/C that you feel should be brought forward for discussion. Ideally, the topic should be brought to the Chair's attention by the Friday before Council so documents/written description can be mailed to members for consideration before the conversation in Council. There will be times when there are last minute topics that come up, but the Chair of the Council needs to know beforehand, even if it is at the last minute.

**REPORTS PRESENTED - In addition to the published July 2023 B/C Reports submitted.**

**Pastor – Rev. Dirk Rodgers**

- By the end of August, ten new members will have joined or are planning to join Roser.

**Altar – Donna Pope**

- Edna continues to provide weekly flowers for the altar, including the 8:30 AM service.

**BREd – Glenda Beck**

- Sunday School has been going well. They are studying the Ten Commandments
- Upcoming events .....
  - 9/17/23 Wrapping shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Lunch provided.
  - Trunk or Treat. Bayfest and other events coming up

**Deacons – Lorna Smilde-Powers**

- Not meeting over the summer, but continue to fulfill duties and provide care.
- They have assisted with a number of memorials.
- They are looking for more Deacons.

**Finance – David Cheshire, Jim Bennington, & Gary Hickerson**

- Gary Reported income and revenue for July were under budget with an increased deficit for the month. They feel this may have been a budgeting error. YTD there was a positive net income of \$12,000 vs. budgeted net loss of \$20,639.
- Financial assets were up in July, month over month and YTD.
- Jim Bennington reported investments are down about \$20K in July.

<u>Investments</u>	07/31/2023	YE 2022
Long-Term Sustaining:	\$426.2K	\$376.4K
Oper / Emer Reserves	<u>\$363.4K</u> (\$130.4K cash)	<u>\$326.7K</u>
Total Investments	\$778.6K	\$703.1K

- Financials Report – As of 7/31/2023 (compiled from detail reports):

<u>Executive Summary of YTD Operating Income and Expenses</u>		
	07/31/2023	2022
Operating Income	\$341,750	\$307,302
Unrestricted Memorials	\$85,144	\$86,281
Total Income	\$426,894	\$393,583
Operating Expenses	\$407,900	\$371,228
Capital Improvements	<u>\$6,583</u>	<u>\$22,400</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$414,483</u>	<u>\$393,628</u>
Net Operating Income	\$12,410	<b>-\$45</b>
<u>Designated</u>	2023	2022
Income	\$111,222	\$79,211
Expenses	<u>\$97,929</u>	<u>\$90,964</u>
Net Designated Income	\$13,293	<b>-\$11,753</b>

Statement of Financial Position:

Total Liabilities and Net Assets as of July 31, 2023:

	2023	2022
	\$1,035,806.63	\$949,494.66

**Food Bank – Cathy Meehan for Jack Brennan**

- 69 bags were distributed in July.
- \$3861 was distributed in Publix cards to Sponsored Food Recipients for August.
- Blessing Box being used frequently. There have been no further thefts.

**Guild – Cherrie Birkman**

- Thrift Shop closed for cleaning in August except for collecting donations on Wednesdays. Cherrie thanked the volunteers helping with the cleaning.
- Thrift Shop will reopen Sept 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Membership – Sharon Skladany**

- There will be new members introduced at this Sunday 10:00 service.

**Missions - Peggy Nash**

- Need new members as some have completed their eight years of service
- Need bottled water for Bring on the Ministry - bring to narthex.

**Music – Sherry Oehler**

- Did not meet in August. Will meet in September.
- Craig and Brandon will return from their vacations next week.
- Choir and Bells will resume rehearsals September 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Bells have been refurbished and look like new.
- Awaiting Glenda, stage manager for Youth group musical offering.
- Piano covers were received.
- Looking for choir members to sing in the cantata.

**Nominating – Darrel Shinn**

- Will meet in October to begin finding new board and committee members. Please contact Darrel or Barb to volunteer.

**Stephen Ministers - Lorna Smilde-Powers**

- Continue to work with care receivers over the summer.
- Ed Saxe has trained to be a chaplain at Blake Hospital. Let the office know of anyone at Blake and Ed will make a visit.

**Trustees – Alan Ward**

- No meetings until Fall
- Some air conditioning issues have been corrected.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- Outside Stage Update –
  - Pastor Dirk discussed the recommended placement of the stage. Photos of the area were sent to Council showing the trees that will stay and those that will need to be removed. Pastor Dirk reviewed the plan.  
**MOTION by Jim Bennington to accept the proposal by the Major Projects Committee, as approved by Board of Finance and Exec Committee.**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Dave Haddox**  
**MOTION PASSED**
  - Permits have been applied for from the City of Anna Maria
  - \$38K has already been raised or pledged for the stage project. Once permits are received, fundraising efforts for the remainder \$10-12K needed will begin.
- Sanctuary Stage: Working on getting a 2<sup>nd</sup> bid. Committee is reviewing budget and tech considerations.
- Contract Oversight Team – David Cheshire discussed the updated lease agreement with gRub. A lengthy discussion followed.

**MOTION by David Cheshire to accept the proposal to approve the lease agreement with gRub as presented.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Darrel Shinn**

**Jim Bennington called the question**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Darrel Shinn**

**MOTION to CALL THE QUESTION PASSED** (21 of 28 members present)

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE LEASE PASSED** – There was a request for a roll-call vote. There were 26 for and 5 against. There were no abstentions.

- Those in dissent were Alan Ward, Dick Walter, Randy Zion, Dave Haddox, and Dan Divine.
- Those in favor were Jim Bennington, Glenda Beck, Beth Bernet, Cherrie Birkman, David Cheshire, Dianne and Doug DeLong, Andy DeVries, Barb & Dale Dohner, Kathleen Geist-Eskew, Gary Hickerson, Jean Knopp, Bill Marini, Cathy Meehan, Peggy Nash, Sherry Oehler, Gretchen Petraske, Donna Pope, Lorna Smilde-Powers, Cass Robertson, Dirk Rodgers, Darrel & Sue Shinn, John & Sharon Skladany.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- David Cheshire reported that West Manatee Fire District notified Roser that they will assess a Fire and Rescue tax of \$1800 potentially up to \$12,000 on the two Fellowship Hall parking parcels plus the recently acquired “driveway” in the Sanctuary Lot. Brian Trimyer of the Harlee & Bald Law Firm has been retained to see if Roser can be exempted from this new tax plus the current \$2,500 stormwater tax. .
- Blue Ribbon Events will add a third event on March 8 and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Roser is granted a booth at all their events. Roser ministries are welcome to use this venue to publicize their purpose, needs, etc.

**Next Meeting:** The next regular meeting of Roser Council is scheduled for Wednesday, September 27, 2023 online at 7:00 PM.

**Adjourn / Prayer:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:26 PM. Pastor Dirk ended the meeting with prayer.

Minutes submitted by Cass Robertson, Clerk of Council