

STATED SESSION MEETING MINUTES
October 4, 2016 7:00 PM in the Thornhill Room

Elders Present: Amy Bess, Sue Davies, Shelley Kelly, Betsy King, Mary Ellen McKey, Paula Moseley, Rayno Niemi, Anna Santos, Brenda Steinmetz-Vallenez, Blake Thompson

Elders Excused: Gretchen Garlinghouse, Dave Miller

Staff Present: Rev. Ben Daniel, Rev. Talitha Aho

Others Present: Leonard Nielson

Rev. Ben Daniel called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and offered the opening prayer.

Clerk's Report: The next regular session meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 1 at 7:00 p.m. Presbytery meets again on Tuesday, November 15 at First Pres. San Mateo. Susanne Lea reported briefly on the regional Presbytery meeting at Park Blvd. Pres. on Tuesday, September 27.

- **MSP** the minutes of the September 6, 2016 stated session meeting, with minor corrections.

Capital Projects Update: Leonard Nielson expects that the realistic move-in date for the middle manse is the weekend before Thanksgiving. We have applied for a partial rebate for the LED lighting and will replace the two sanctuary furnaces. After that the committee will reconvene and determine what is left to be done with the capital campaign, e.g., office roof, repairing decks. Of note, a \$20,000 initial contribution to the capital campaign will not be forthcoming.

The alarm system that services the Education Building has quit functioning. There are two ways to go: put in a whole new system for around \$30,000, or, according to Bay Alarm, replace the CPU and that should solve the problem. We have enough reserves to pay for a new system, and can also use our line of credit. Finance Committee will review the situation and make a recommendation.

Nominating Committee: Amy Bess indicated that the Nominating Committee will be meeting soon. We need to set a congregational meeting date to elect new members to the Nominating Committee and also update the terms of call for Rev. Talitha Aho.

- **MSP** to hold a congregational meeting on Sunday, November 13 to elect new members to the Church Nominating Committee and update Talitha's terms of call.

Children and Youth Committee: Rayno Niemi delivered the attached report for the Children & Youth Committee. The committee is establishing the calendar through May 2017, identifying a major topic for each month. It also needs to organize another safe church training. Karen Ray Gibson and Pat Schwinn are being trained to be Godly Play teachers.

Committee Fair Recap: The model of using the Family Room and combining with "kick off" Sunday worked well – participation was high, there were many sign ups and lots of information sharing.

Adult Education Report: Paula Moseley reported that a committee of stakeholders might explore the issue of when Sunday Celebration occurs. If Celebration started at 11:a.m., pre-church classes could convene at 9:30 , making it easier for folks to attend.

Personnel Committee: Session segued to executive session to discuss an ongoing personnel matter.

The committee reported in regular session that it has hired Odalisa Dominguez and her crew, as independent contractors, for our janitorial service for \$15,000 a year. This fee includes Sunday set up and regular cleaning. The janitorial service will be paid a flat fee for special events. Personnel committee is drafting a letter agreement.

The committee is also working on staff evaluations and is drafting a manse agreement.

Renaming the Thornhill Room: Susanne reported that a congregant has suggested renaming the Thornhill Room the “Hadsell Room.” The consensus of session was not to get into the business of naming rooms or areas after beloved members and friends of MPC.

Staff Reports: Talitha had a packed and difficult month: sick two times; office painted; wedding; retreat coming up in three weeks. October is a big month for Ben: among other things, he will be teaching two classes.

Ben adjourned the meeting with prayer at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susanne Lea
Clerk of Session