

ST. PAUL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
COUNCIL MINUTES FROM MEETING OF  
Tuesday, May 13, 2025

**Council Members Present:** Pam Lange, Jane Dykowski, Michael Isaacs, Toni Hill, Jeannette Wackro, Mark Ennis, Wendy Warner, Dan Case, Tim Ruffner, and Conrad Heidt. Also present: Rev. Anderson.

**Guests:** Christian Education Ministry: Christian Education Committee Chair, Debbie Case and Sunday School Superintendent, Candace Poet. Office Ministry: Senior Pastor, Rev. Linda Anderson, Office Manager, Sue Mrowka and Administrative Assistant, Cindy Romas.

Meeting was called to order by President, Tim Ruffner, at 6:30 p.m. followed by opening prayer led by Rev. Linda Anderson.

At this time, President, Tim Ruffner recognized Debbie Case, Kaitlyn Isaacs, and John Dykowski from the Search Team whom he invited to join the council at this meeting. There followed a motion by Michael Isaacs, seconded by Toni Hill, to move to Executive Session. Motion carried. The meeting (all of those present) began Executive Session at 6:41 p.m.

Motion by Dan Case, seconded by Toni Hill, to return to regular session. Motion carried. The meeting returned to regular session at 7:30 p.m.

Motion by Dan Case, seconded by Wendy Warner, to accept the resignation of Mark Ennis as Search Team Chairperson. Motion carried. He was thanked for his dedicated commitment to the search team. Motion by Dan Case, seconded by Jeannette Wackro, to appoint Pam Lange as chairperson, pro tem of the Search Team. Motion carried.

Motion by Dan Case, seconded by Toni Hill, for the current search team to meet once again to restructure, recommend leadership, recommend membership, and next steps with candidate interviews. Motion carried.

John Dykowski and Kaitlyn Isaacs were thanked for their attendance and dismissed.

**Council Guests:** The guest from Christian Education was Debbie Case. (The Sunday School Superintendent, Candace Poet, was unable to attend.) Debbie Case reported that VBS is planned for July 21 – 23 evening sessions and June 24 will be a trip to Willow Metropark for a “fun” day. A couple from the community with children have been attending recently. At the picnic there are plans for two bounce houses available for the children. Jane Dykowski added that there is a possibility for a free “gift walk” for the children designed as cake walks are designed. There will not be a petting farm. Reverend Anderson was the only Office Ministry representative in attendance. (Sue Mrowka and Cindy Romas were unavailable to attend.) Rev. Anderson had no comments. Debbie Case was thanked for her dedicated work with Christian education and excused.

**Approval of the Minutes:** Motion by Dan Case, seconded by Mark Ennis, to approve the minutes of the April 8, 2025 Council Meeting. Motion carried.

**Agenda Additions/Deletions:** To New Business add: Resignation of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Sue Mrowka.

#### REPORTS AND UPDATES

**Treasurer’s Report:** Written report. Dan Case expanded on his written report that April income was \$13,975 and expenses were about \$14,500. Therefore we were in the negative by c. \$900. We are still

**Treasurer's Report (Continued)**

In the positive for the year by about \$2000. There will be a "catch up" envelope soon. Also organ repairs were \$600 plus and have been completed and paid. Motion by Toni Hill, seconded by Michael Isaacs, to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

**Ministry Department:** Interim minister, Rev. Linda Anderson, reported that she did the first internment in our memorial garden. The VanDerCooks ashes were interred on what would have been their 68<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. They were long time members before moving from the area. There is a timing concern about service length. Only in very unusual circumstances should song verses be omitted to save time. The Bible Study group is becoming very lively. They have much instruction and fellowship.

**Trustees/Building and Grounds:** Michael Isaacs reported that the trailer has been moved back to the storage area and rummage sale cleanup is almost complete. He related that the Building and Grounds Ministry needs to have a meeting. Dan Case added the need to inspect the electrical system, seal the parking lot, and clean the kitchen hood.

**Deacons:** Jeannette Wackro reported that in April 488 (in person and Facebook) attended. She thanked Dan Case and Teri Staffeld who have helped as auxiliary deacons. Our Facebook attendance has declined.

**Elders:** Pam Lange reported that 109 communed on Easter and on May 4<sup>th</sup> there were 81.

**Search Team Update:** This was covered earlier in the meeting following the executive session.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Status of Member Drops: All is ready to prepare and send letters. Cindy Romas can produce in individualized format. Wendy Warner offered to help with the process.
2. Delegate for Detroit Metro Association Meeting: Dan Case will send out link so anyone can attend virtually. Michael Isaacs and others expressed interest in tuning in on May 17, 2025. There will be 3 guest speakers.
3. Increase in Rev. Anderson's Housing Allowance: Motion by Dan Case, seconded by Wendy Warner, to increase Rev. Anderson's housing allowance to \$21,000. Motion carried.
4. ChristNet Golf Outing: Motion by Dan Case, seconded by Conrad Heidt, to sponsor a hole for the ChristNet Golf Outing. The cost is \$100. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Kitchen Inspection: The inspector came during the rummage sale. Toni Hill and Dan Case were available to accompany the inspector. (Tim Ruffner apologized for not knowing about it.) We had the incorrect test strips for sanitation and a thermometer was needed in the refrigerator. Both items have been secured and in place. The kitchen inspection was passed.
2. Safety/Security Housekeeping Walk Through: Everyone had a detailed copy of the Walk Through report. There were no safety violations. There were a few minor issues that have been assigned to the owners.
3. Sue Mrowka Resignation: Tim Ruffner read the resignation letter from Sue Mrowka as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of the Council. Thereafter there was a motion by Dan Case, seconded by Michael Isaacs, to accept her resignation with regrets and to thank her for her service. Motion carried.

**ROUNDTABLE**

Dan Case initiated a conversation regarding the arrangement of items in the weekly bulletin and listing of those serving in that day's worship. Rev. Anderson volunteered to discuss the issue with Cindy Romas.

Motion by Toni Hill, seconded by Conrad Heidt, to adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m. followed by the Lord's Prayer recited in unison.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane L. Dykowski  
Recording Secretary.