



RHUMC'S Administrative Council Meeting Minutes, 11.11.25

Attendance: Pat Bowman (Treasurer/Council Chair, CSNS), Kristi Colburn, (Secretary, CSNS), Janice Williams (Food Pantry), Joan Murray (UMW/UWIF), Jennifer Van Voorhis (SPPR/Financial Secretary), Absent: Pastor Caroline Berninger (on vacation), Mark Chenkus (Trustees), and Pastor Barbara Melzer.

A motion to call the meeting to order was made, seconded, and carried, (M/S/C) following prayer, at 6:05 p.m.

A motion to accept the agenda was made, seconded and carried.
(no minutes in October, due to Budget Meeting)

Pastor's Report: Pastor Caroline is on vacation until November 21. Jennifer VanVoorhis highlighted a few items from Pastor Caroline's report from the charge conference. Please see the attachment.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer Report (Pat Bowman)- Patty reported that we were able to pay our conference apportionment. We are "holding" our own and able to pay the bills. She thanked everyone who supported and volunteered for the Chili Take-Out Fundraiser. She is working on closing the Memorial Fund bank account at M & T Bank and merging the funds into the general church account. She has encountered difficulties due to people's names being on the accounts who have passed away. Documents of the deceased may need to be obtained. If assistance is needed, Patty will reach out to Kristi or others.

A motion was made to dissolve the Memorial Fund Bank Account and merge the funds into the General Church Fund. After discussion, the motion was made seconded, and carried.

1. Trustees (Mark)-In Mark's absence, Patty and Kristi provided a brief synopsis of the November 5th meeting.
 - a. The parsonage is almost complete. The Trustees took a tour and it looks nice.
 - b. On Friday, the big weeping tree between the parsonage and church will be trimmed by Dave's tree service. This expense was adopted by a member of the church. We are grateful to her.
 - c. The Trustee nominations at the charge conference were discussed. A separate conference needs to occur to elect Orland Miller to the Trustees. Some confusion took place about Tracie Dedrick's Trustee status. She was elected in the Class of 2025.
 - d. On November 22, there will be a church wide clean up day starting at 9 a.m. in the Sanctuary and at 11 a.m. in the downstairs kitchen and fellowship hall.
 - e. Discussion took place regarding the Usher responsibilities and hymnals. The Ushers need to make sure people have the correct hymnals for the

services. Dave Moore stated that this would be relayed to Pastor Barbara who is the Chair of the Music and Worship Committee.

- f. The NYAC sent a survey pertaining to insurance companies and churches. Rand Thomson, Dave Moore, Joe O'Han, and Kristi Colburn are addressing this survey.
2. Worship and Music (Pastor Caroline & Barbara)-no official report. Joan Murray and Kristi Colburn highlighted a few items. Rev. Barbara E. Melzer is on call for pastor care or emergencies during Pastor Caroline's vacation. Joan Murray is preaching on November 16 in Red Hook and at Rowe UMC. November 30 is the beginning of Advent. We are invited to join St. John's RC and the Episcopalians for a Blue Christmas Service on December 8, at 7 p.m. at St. John's RC.
3. SPPR (Jennifer Van Voorhis)-Jennifer stated that there is confusion about paying Pastor Caroline's insurance. She needs clarification from NYAC.
4. United in Faith/UMW (Joan Murray)-We had an October meeting at a member's house for dinner. Approximately, 10 ladies attended. Our November 17 meeting will be at Patty's house for games, fun, and light refreshments. All are welcome!
5. Food Pantry (Janice Williams)-Janice reported the statistics for October and the first two weeks in November. We are averaging between 50-60 families a week. See attachment. She has received several phone calls and emails from people who are concerned with the shutdown of SNAP. Some have sent donations, which we are very grateful for. She is very thankful for the volunteers. It would not continue without the support of our church family, our extended church families, and the Red Hook area community.
6. Nursery School (Kristi Colburn, Pat Bowman)-Patty reported that the Nursery School has been collecting food for the church's food pantry. They are having a friendly competition between classes about how much food they collect. They have been busy with fall activities including field trips. Fundraisers continue. Please check out their bulletin boards for details. It was noted that on December 6, Parent Night Out is scheduled as well as the Holly Day Bazaar. We will reassure Holly that the two events can occur on the same day. We are grateful for all their assistance, support, and gratitude.

Old Business:

- Nov. 30, Northeastern Hills Parish Worship Service and Terry's concert. It has been organized, advertised, and food planned for lunch and refreshments afterwards. Discussion took place regarding an offering. Pastor Caroline suggested a freewill offering and give 50% to Terry and 50% to missions. **After discussion, a motion to collect a freewill offering and divide it between Terry and UMCOR at the concert. The motion was made seconded, and carried.**

- Safe Sanctuary update and approval. Kristi presented the updated Safe Sanctuary Policy. **After discussion, a motion to approve the updated policy was made seconded, and carried.**
- Chili Take Out Dinner-Thank you to the volunteers for making it a success.
- Nov. 1, Charge Conference-Thank you to all who participated in the Nov. 1 Charge Conference. It was determined that a church conference is needed to approve Orland Miller on the Trustees and to approve the amended Nomination Committee report. Kristi reminded ALL committee chairpersons to look at your committee names and update as needed. At the extra church conference, a new packet of reports will be updated and distributed.
- Holly Day Bazaar, December 6, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Joan Murray & Kathleen are organizing it. We need LOTS of volunteers to man the tables, provide donations of food and nonfood items, and if anyone would like to help in the kitchen making the food, please let Joan Murray or Kristi Colburn know. Thanks in advance for saying, “YES!”.

New Business:

- Technology- Janice Williams has been working on our new website, which is more user friendly. Our email: redhookumc@umcchurches.org will be discontinued soon. Our new emails will be: redhookumc@outlook.com and redhookumc@google.com. She is working on a “mesh” system to allow the Nursery School and the church to use the same Spectrum account. She is also working on getting “boosters” to enhance the signal for different areas in the church, including downstairs, nursery school rooms, lounge, sanctuary, etc.
- Greek Dinner- Nov. 22, 4:30-7 pm. Trustees and Asia O’Han organizing it. You can eat at the church or take it home, suggested donation is \$18, hours are 4:30-6:00 p.m. If you would like to help, please see Joe O’Han.
- 16th Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner is Nov. 27, 12 noon buffet style meal, at 2 p.m. takeouts are available. Reservations are required. Please call Patty at Holy Cow Ice Cream. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Patty.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded, and carried, at 7:35 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for December 9, at 6 p.m. in the lounge.

Respectfully submitted,
 Kristi Colburn
 Secretary of Administrative Council
 Secretary of RHUMC