

Clifton Council Meeting

4/4/14

Attendance: Pastor Manoj, Mrs. Kyoko Andersson, Mrs. Misayo Bien, Rev. Kathaleen Sato, Mr. Alain Tamelessio, Mr. Robert Beebe and Mr. Zeth Bell. **Excused Absences:** Mrs. Tamayo Oppenheimer and Mrs. Masako Feddema

- The meeting was brought to order at 7:44 pm.
- Rev. Sato led the Opening Prayer and welcomed Council Members.

Old Business:

A. Updates on Church Parsonage

- Dr. Ann has not clearly stated when she and her family will move out of the parsonage. Headquarters was advised of the situation. A response from headquarters is still pending.
- It was suggested to ask council members who know Dr. Iparraguirre help reach out to her.
- It was also suggested to have future tenants sign an official Rent Agreement for usage of the parsonage, to avoid complications.

B. Feed Back on the Town Hall Meeting

- A shorter presentation would have allowed for more interaction with members.
- More emphasis should have been placed on the questions and concerns of the community members rather than running the Town Hall Meeting efficiently.
- The name of the person who wrote the questions should have been included on the paper. Then the person could be recognized when the question was read. This would help the Council connect with members.
- It was suggested to have two types of Town Hall Meetings; one for hearing concerns and suggestions lead by Pastor Manoj (Monthly, 1st Sunday, in the afternoon), and the other one for sharing plans and vision (with an agenda and reports.)
- Rev. Sato read the questions that were not dealt with at the Town Hall Meeting. (Tamayo Oppenheimer volunteered to type up the questions from the Town Hall meeting, for future reference.)
- One concern regarding Sunday Service was addressed. The members are not sure whether the sermon will be appropriate for their guests as the sermon topics are not announced beforehand; and the preacher and MC change each week.
- It was suggested to have a training program for volunteers involved in the Sunday Service (including preachers and MCs), to improve the situation.
- It was suggested to acknowledge and express appreciation to the community members for their suggestions and participation at the Town Hall Meeting at the Sunday services on 4/6/14.

C. *Communications Director for Clifton Family Church*

- It has become apparent that the church needs a more qualified person for the position of Communications Director. The current Director is unable to fulfill the responsibilities of the position adequately. It was voted to give a one-month's notice prior to dismissal. The vote carried in favor of the decision 6/0. (The two remaining council members were not present.)
- Requirements for the position of Communications Director were announced. The person needed to fulfill the position of Communications Director will assist Pastor Manoj. He/ She must be familiar with the database; adept with communications and follow proper channels. Be efficient, creative, and skillful, at working with graphics for banners and fliers, as well as organizing the content for the Church E-News. This person will be the face of the church. (Good people skills, sensitive to the needs of guests and the ability to create a welcoming environment, in the office.)

D. *National Council Representative*

New Jersey needs to select and send one representative to sit on the National Council. The selection needs to be sent in as soon as possible. As Clifton has the largest community and Elizabeth has not set up their council yet, it was suggested that Clifton select a representative among its Council Members. Alain Tamelessio was nominated. The vote carried in favor (6/0.) (The two remaining council members were not present.)

The next National Council Meeting will be April 25th and 26th.

E. *The next Clifton Council Meeting will be Friday, April 18th.*

New Business:

- A. Improve security and maintenance of church facilities
- B. Regulations and proper course of action for public situation

The Meeting was closed in prayer by Mr. Alain Tamelessio at 9:42 pm.

Secretary,

-Zeth Bell