

Clifton Council Meeting Minutes
5/16/14

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

- The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM
- The Opening Prayer was led by Rev. Sato
- The CIG Motto was read

Agenda:

- Minutes from the Council Meeting on 5/2/14 were read by the secretary, Zeth Bell. A correction was made to the **Old Business** section, under **Item C.**, regarding the title of the dissertation... It now reads... "**When Parents Withdraw Their Children, What Were Their Reasons**"; and... "**Bridgeport International Academy (BIA) (not Bridgeport University.)**"

Old Business:

A. Finalize Planning for the Town Hall Meeting 5/25/14

- Begin the meeting with reading the National Charter (list of local church council responsibilities), to have clarity and unity; emphasize that the council members are honored to serve as liaisons, and as a voice for community.
- Mention hyperlinks in E-news (images for appeal) that include: Answers to Town Hall questions and let members know that they can contact council members after the meeting; by e-mail or by phone.
- Points to consider regarding answering questions during the Town Hall Meeting:
 - Be careful about certain questions (intention and respect from both ends both the council and members.)
 - Use of statistics and disclosure of private information. (Council must consider repercussions for all actions.)
 - Time for the Town Hall Meeting is short and should be used wisely.
- Agenda
 - Question papers will be handed out with bulletins, (as members enter the Sanctuary, for Sunday Service)
 - 10:00 Opening Prayer
 - 10:03 Welcome (Read Council Responsibilities)
 - 10:10 Questions (Rules for questions - **1 minute time frame**)
 - 10:40 Closing Prayer
 - Roles were confirmed from last meeting

B. Updates

- Parsonage
 - Dr. Ann said she has more immediate possibilities she is focused on (rather than applying for the position at BIA.) There is still no date confirmed for their departure from the parsonage.
 - It was suggested to have Headquarters Legal Dept contact her directly about the situation.
 - It was suggested to do a joint prayer condition for 21-Days (5/17-6/7), for Dr. Ann and the parsonage situation. It was suggested to pray together on Conference Calls (Vote: yes 1 / no 7). It was decided that the prayer condition will be done individually. (The prayer points were sent out by e-mail.) .
- **Office Manager/Secretary**
 - Soin Alexander (who has a degree in English, and is adept at learning new skills) was chosen for the part-time position. The vote was unanimous.
- **Building Committee Report**
 - The first meeting was on 5/4
 - Points discussed: Removal of the church's oil tank. It was decided to postpone the removal. There is a \$300 ***application fee which needs to be submitted** to the County, in addition to road paving fees required and internal renovation costs (for switching from oil to gas.)
 - Mr. Edwards emphasized that the committee should get a professional estimate.
- **Proposal by Oliver Noll for a permanent location for the "Cup & Cake Café."**
 - A letter about Mr. Noll's proposal was read to the council. The letter requested the use of the Conference Room for the "Cup & Cake Café." The vote was 7 against /1 abstained. Reasons: The Conference Room is not a practical location. (There is no water.) The room cannot accommodate a large number of occupants. The Conference Room is already being used for multi-purposes.
 - Other possible places suggested: the Parsonage and the room next to kitchen. It was mentioned that the parsonage has more possibilities for witnessing. The location is still under discussion.

New Business:

- A. *Cup & Cake Cafe*
- B. *Parsonage status*
- C. *Planning for next Town Hall Meeting*

The meeting was closed in prayer by Mrs. Andersson at 10:17PM

Secretary,

-Zeth Bell