

**STATED SESSION MEETING
OLD STONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2023**

The Session of the Old Stone Presbyterian Church held their regular Stated meeting on Wednesday, April 19, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. and opened with prayer by the Moderator, Rev. Jeff Binder, Interim Pastor. Attendance was taken by the Clerk and it was declared that a quorum was in attendance.

PRESENT: Moderator, Rev. Jeff Binder; Clerk of Session, Nancy Smallenberger; Educator/Program Coordinator, Amy Kesterson; Ruling Elders: Renee Ahern, Jim Coleman, Townley Hamilton, Sara Irons, Megan Kirkham, Amy Meadows, Joan Montgomery, Jennifer Runyon and Gary Williams; and guests: Rev. Cam Harkness, representing the Bereavement group and Jason Long, a member of the PNC.

EXCUSED: Ruling Elders: Stuart Brown, Jim Rowe and Ann Walker.

The docket was approved as presented, with the addition of a request from the Presbyterian Women to hold their annual Birthday Offering.

The clerk presented the minutes of the Wednesday, March 15, 2023, Stated meeting; minutes were **APPROVED** as presented.

On April 4th, Rev. Binder sent out an email request for the Session to vote on the removal of a tree behind the Education Building. The email contained bids from three companies. Rev. Binder explained that there was a problem with the email so the Session held a vote. A motion was made, seconded and **APPROVED** for Underwood Tree Care to do the job.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS:

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – Amy Kesterson

- At this time, Rev. Harkness was welcomed. He stated that he had been leading the Bereavement group that has met at Old Stone for the last 18 months. At this time, the group would like to join a Zoom group that meets on Sunday evenings; led by Linda Wheeler’s niece in Florida. The group would meet in the Conference Room of Old Stone for 13 sessions, beginning June 4, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Each participant would be purchasing their own workbook. A motion was made, seconded and **APPROVED** for the group to use the Conference Room for their gathering.
- The curriculum for the above group will be “Grief Share”. A motion was made, seconded and **APPROVED** for the use of their curriculum.

PNC – Jason Long

- An update was given on their process. The PNC has identified a candidate to serve as the next Called Pastor. This “candidate” will be in the pulpit on Sunday, May 7, to preach. The committee is requesting that Session call a Congregational Meeting, following worship on Sunday, May 7, 2023. A motion was made, seconded and

APPROVED. A motion was also made, seconded and APPROVED to allow “the candidate” to preside at the Lord’s Supper during the service.

- The time-table for the transition will be:

Thursday, April 27	Called Meeting with Presbytery’s C.O.M., the candidate and OSPC P.N.C.
Sunday, April 30	Announcement of the Congregational Meeting
Sunday, May 7	Candidate to preach with the congregational meeting following the worship service
Sunday, May 28	Rev. Binder’s last Sunday in the pulpit at OSPC
Sunday, June 18	The first Sunday for the newly elected pastor

BUILDING USE POLICY UPDATE – Jennifer Runyon and Amy Kesterson

- An update was given from the group’s last meeting.

Building Use Requests:

- A request was received from the Greenbrier County Republican Club to use Fellowship Hall for their meetings on the 1st Thursday of each month. A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED to allow the group to meet at the church, with no fee being charged.
- A request was received from the Active Southern West Virginia group to hold a Line Dancing Class in Fellowship Hall on May 17, May 24, May 31, June 7, June 14 and June 21 with the option of continuing three times monthly in the future. A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED to allow the group to meet at the church, with no fee being charged.

Building Use Application “Draft”:

- A draft of the newest Building Use Application was included in the Session packet for review. Discussion was held on the “draft” with questions being answered by Runyon and Kesterson. The Task Force will be meeting again Wednesday, May 10. If anyone has further questions, please contact Pastor Jeff or any member of the Task Force.

MUSIC and WORSHIP – Townley Hamilton

- The committee is presenting, as a motion, the approval to purchase new choir robes by the Sanctuary Choir. The choir has presented their request to the Worship Committee and the committee is presenting the motion to Session, so no second is required. The 30 robes and stole sets will be paid for by funds that were given as gifts to the music/choir department, so the purchase is not a budget item. The motion was APPROVED by Session.

OUTREACH – Jennifer Runyon

- Runyon presented the request to establish a Standing Fife Scholarship Committee. Members for the committee will be: Amy Ahern, who will serve as moderator; Jennifer Runyon and Nancy Smallenberger. A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED to elect these three individuals to serve on the committee each year, until one of the members wishes to be removed.

PERSONNEL – Pastor Jeff in the absence of Jim Rowe

- The committee is presenting a motion for the church to enter into an agreement to lease a copier for the church from Professional Business Solutions. This will be a lease agreement as opposed to owing the machine as is currently the situation. The motion comes from committee so no second is required; the motion was APPROVED.

PROPERTY – Joan Montgomery

- A new hot water heater was purchased and installed due to the old, 18-year old tank, developing a leak.
- The tree behind the Education Building, near the cemetery, has been removed.
- The carpet for the sanctuary has been ordered.

SAFETY TEAM UPDATE

- The Task Force has reviewed the Usher Responsibility List that has been prepared by Norman Ahern.
- During the next couple meetings of the Task Force, it is hoped that more questions will be answered.

STEWARDSHIP/FINANCE – Jennifer Runyon

- Audit report for Year Ending December 2016 (which was included in the Session packet) has been reviewed and notes made by the Treasurer for items that are needing attention by the church finance committee.

PASTOR’S REPORT – Pastor Jeff

- Congregational Care updates were reviewed
- A funeral/Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, April 22, in the sanctuary of Old Stone for the Rev. James “Jim” Leitch.
- Pastor Jeff noted that he will be officiating a wedding on May 26 out of town.
- The Trustees have asked the Session to verify what 12-month period they wish to have the building insurance scheduled. The Session verified that they would like to have the insurance covered on “the calendar year” (January – December) and would like to have the premium finalized before the budget is finalized.

REPORT OF THE CLERK – Nancy Smallenberger

- Election of Ruling Elder Commissioner for the Saturday, May 20th meeting of the Presbytery of WV to be held at 1st Presbyterian Church in Clarksburg. There was no one willing to attend the meeting so no commissioner was elected.
- A letter was received from the Clerk of the Ronceverte Presbyterian Church requesting the transfer of Patricia Boisvert from OSPC to RPC. A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED to make such transfer.
- Worship Attendance (as recorded in the Session packet)

Sunday, March 12	60 In Person	28 Livestream
Sunday, March 19	73 In Person	19 Livestream
Sunday, March 26	76 In Person	14 Livestream
Palm Sunday, April 2	82 In Person	16 Livestream

Thursday, April 6 (Maundy Thursday dinner & service)	55 In Person	No Livestream
Easter Sunday, April 9	154 In Person	20 Livestream
Sunday, April 16	88 In Person	19 Livestream

NEW BUSINESS:

- Women of the Church Birthday Offering – Motion was made, seconded and APPROVED for the WOC to hold this special offering on Sunday, May 21st.

FELLOWSHIP – Sara Irons (report was not included in the packet)

- Fellowship Survey (similar to the one used last year) will be prepared and included in upcoming bulletins and email blasts.
- The committee will host a Pentecost Covered Dish luncheon on Sunday, May 28, following morning worship. The church will supply meat and dessert with the congregation asked to bring salad or vegetable.

NEXT STATED SESSION MEETING – Wednesday, May 17th

6:00 p.m.

Activity Room and via Zoom

There being no further business to be conducted by the Session, the meeting was adjourned and closed with prayer by Pastor Jeff.

Clerk of Session

Moderator

Date Approved and Signed