

## VERMONT CONGREGATIONAL MEETING BUILDING PROJECT

**DATE:** 10/04/09. Meeting convened at 11:30 AM by Council president, Peter Antonie.

**AGENDA:** Outdoor Facility Project

**Introduction:** Referring to the letter sent out to all members of the church, Peter presented information regarding the purpose, planning process, implementation time frame, and financing plans with respect to the proposed free-standing outdoor facility and storage area. He reviewed how becoming a stand-alone congregation has changed our space needs and cited how, historically, building projects at Vermont have met the needs of our growing ministries and been funded ahead of schedule once the congregation gave its approval and support.

The proposed building would meet current short-term needs for additional meeting, fellowship and youth program space. Being less traditional than our church building, it would encourage more varied uses that might include family reunions, weddings, more informal worship services, informal meeting space, location for youth projects and activities, Sunday School, community outreach activities, and shelter for funeral services during inclement weather. The storage space would allow relief of maxed out storage space at church and inventoried consolidation of equipment and materials that are otherwise stored in a variety of off-grounds storage spaces.

**The Motion** was made (Jim Ludolf) and seconded (Jane Hanson) “**To accept the Council’s recommendation to construct an outdoor facility with attached storage room, to the east of the church, in keeping with the architectural plans and drawings at a total cost of approximately \$70,000, funded in part with Undesignated Memorials and Building Fund monies and repayment of a loan, by the congregation, of no more than \$44,000**”.

**The floor was opened for discussion.** Questions/concerns were raised concerning:

- Affordability of the project (funding would be met if each giving unit gave an average \$75/year each of 4 years),
- Prioritizing building projects to meet needs for office, classroom and additional lavatory space (an addition to the existing structure would cost about \$500,000 and is not affordable currently; space needs are immediate),
- Questioning the wisdom of building a 3 vs. 4 season building (the plans call for putting in the infrastructure to easily convert the building from a 3 to 4 season building at a future date).
- Removing trees to make room for the building (2 trees would be removed and replanted).

**Motion was made to close discussion** (Bud Ericson).

A secret ballot vote of the congregation members present was done.

**Motion was carried on a vote of: 72 YES and 9 NO votes.**

**Motion to adjourn** was made by Janet Everson who came forward to make the first donation and seconded by Caroline Antonie. Adjourned at 12:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted by Bonnie Dauck, Council Secretary