

Clifton Family Church Council Report - Overview of Council Activities 2015

Kathaleen Sato
January 7, 2016

In January and February, the council focused on vacating the church parsonage and creating a church Finance Committee.

In March, the parsonage was prepared to receive the GPA Team.

In April – there was a combined Witnessing Campaign & Community Meeting to organize activities and support for the GPA Team

In May, a new Director for the Blessed Family Ministry was approved and hired Andria Rodgers.

The National Council held two webinars to share best practices of church councils. The Clifton Family church council was invited to be a presenter for the first webinar.

After hearing the webinars, the council felt it would be good to create a council handbook as a reference for future councils.

In June, Church usage policies (rules and regulations) were submitted and approved by the council.

At the end of August the Council received a report that Camp Sunrise had incurred a substantial deficit (of approximately \$30,000) for the current year, 2015. Clifton Church is one of the stakeholders in Camp Sunrise and has responsibility for a portion of the shortfall (Clifton Church and West Rock are responsible for 45% of any shortfall. Bridgeport, the third stakeholder is responsible for 10%.

The next few council meetings were spent discussing how to resolve the situation and whether to continue to support the Camp in 2016. (Although the council continued to research how the deficit was incurred until the end of the council's term, there was insufficient information for council members to make an informed decision. The decision was transferred to the new council in December, 2015.

In September, planning began for the Council Elections for the next term (2016-2018). Information regarding nominations and voting were sent out to the community. Nominations were processed and approved. A voters guide and ballots were printed and made available at Sunday Service as well as online.

Voting took place (October 25th – November 1st.). Four new council members were elected to fill the four vacant council seats: Alex Beebe, Noriko Sprague, Naria McGee and Atsushi Takino.

In early November, the new council members were invited to a council meeting and introduced before the council.

The council finished its term with a reflection meeting in the end of November.

Rev. Kathaleen Sato
Former Council Chair
2013 - 2015