



BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 3, 2023

5:30 pm – Room 200 B|C

Attendance

Board Members: Donna Blaul, Diane Horsager, Iver Johnson, Gene Mickelson, Tom Nelson, Jay Olstad, Barb Peterson, Marlene Robertson, Josh Tuchscherer

Staff: Paul Dean, Kienan Mick, Julie Klein

Call to Order

Barb called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm, and Gene provided devotions.

Agenda

Motion made and seconded to approve the agenda with flexibility. Motion passed.

Approval of September 5, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes of the September 5, 2023, meeting. Motion passed.

New Business

Pastor Paul and Kienan proposed a Sanctuary refresh – painting and new flooring - and overlay repair of the south parking lot to provide a safe and welcoming experience for our congregation and guests. Funds for this project will come from the capital budget with the hope of project completion by the end of year.

Motion and seconded to authorize Sanctuary interior painting and carpeting, and south parking lot overlay for approximately \$150,000. Motion passed.

Kienan gave an update regarding the status of the 2022-2023 Financial Statement Review. Kienan informed the Board that two significant issues were holding up the process for finalizing the review. The auditors were struggling to identify accounts and account headers from the ledger, that were given to them in another format last year. In addition, Kienan is seeking their advice for reconciling cash. Kienan felt that they needed to offer more support in both areas. The Board supported Kienan's proposal that the auditors needed to use the information provided to them to resolve the two open items, and that Kienan would lead an RFP process prior to next year's review.

Donna anticipates the Board Nominating Committee will convene in December or January.

The Board will host a treat station at the annual *Boo Bash* event in the Prince of Peace main parking lot on October 28. Gene offered to decorate his vehicle and the Board was asked to provide treats and help host at the event.

Reports

- **Lead Pastor Report – Paul Dean**

Paul noted in the second month of transition there is good energy and response from the congregation.

The congregation listening sessions are well attended and there will be several more scheduled to target specific groups including young families and young adults.

Our stewardship appeal – *Spirit Life* – is moving forward around three specific goals:

- Sustain our current ministry.
- Invest in our Next/Emerging Generations.
- Mission Outpost Connect – providing a point of intervention for acute poverty.

In preparation for a strategic planning process in Spring 2024, interviews and assessments of strategic planning firms are being conducted and evaluated.

- **Finance Director Report – Kienan Mick**

Offerings increased overall versus July and showed a small positive variance to budget. Offerings were also \$12k more vs. August of 2022. We have about 2,600 “active” households in our database, of those, fewer than 1,000 make an annual commitment. One goal we have is to see at least half of our households make a commitment during the stewardship appeal.

It is still too early in the year to notice significant trends in budget, but we also have not experienced any unusual budget variances to date.

We currently have about \$237k cash on hand in capital campaign funds. In addition, \$348k remains in pledge receivable.

- **Coffee with a Board Member**

Jay proposed including Saturday evening as an opportunity to connect with a Board member following worship and the Board agreed to start in November.

Motion made and seconded to receive and file the written reports for October submitted by Paul Dean, Lead Pastor, and Kienan Mick, Director of Finance. Motion passed.

The Board entered closed session at 7:40 to discuss a personnel issue and resumed regular session at 7:45 pm.

In honor of his installation as Lead Pastor, Paul was presented a gift by the Board on behalf of the Congregation. The gift is a framed print from the St. John’s Bible Illumination Series entitled *Life in Community*, based on Acts 4. The image depicts a circle of people sharing a never-ending common table.

Adjournment

Barb adjourned the meeting at 7:50 pm and the meeting was closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Klein
Recording Secretary

Diane Horsager
Secretary