

Minutes of the MCCDC Congregational Meeting Sunday, November 17, 2013

- I. **Call to Order:** The 2013 Congregational Meeting of MCCDC was called to order at 12:45p.m. A quorum was established, as there were 53 members in attendance.
- II. **Opening Prayer:** Rev. Dwayne Johnson led the congregation in opening prayer.
- III. **Introductory Remarks:** Rev. Dwayne explained that the Congregational Forum held two weeks earlier on 11/3/13 was the primary venue for discussion and questions and that debate at this Congregational Meeting would be limited to three speakers for and three against. Rev. Dwayne added that, as a result of last week's forum, the Board of Directors has added to the agenda a motion regarding audits. Donte Hunter moved to accept the amended agenda, Ace [Last Name] seconded. The amended agenda is approved.
- IV. **Elections for the Board of Directors/Lay Delegates.**

Board of Directors Election

Rev. Dwayne presented the Nominating Committee's recommendation of David Jenkins and Knut Panknin. As there are two candidates for three openings, Rev. Dwayne opened the floor to nominations. Will Nicely nominated Kathleen Carey, Phil Helbling seconded the nomination and Kathleen accepted the nomination. Brian Scott nominated Darryl Walker, Elaine Durden-Hunter seconded and Darryl accepted the nomination. Bob Jones moved to close nominations and Dale Baskerville seconded and the congregation approved.

Rev. Dwayne asked Bob Whitman to lead the congregation in prayer.

Board of Directors election results:

53 Knut Panknin
47 Kathleen Carey
38 David Jenkins
18 Darryl Walker

Lay Delegates Election

Rev. Dwayne pointed out that we have exactly three candidates for three openings and asked if there would be a motion to accept the candidates as a slate. Elaine Durden-Hunter moved and Donte Hunter seconded. By a show of hands, the congregation accepted the candidates for Lay Delegates as a slate.

V. **Reports**

Donte Hunter moved to accept and Sandra Meaders seconded. Discussion centered around the Buchanan Fund and the Capital Projects Fund. Tim Helm asked for clarification where the refinance equity went. Mark Kornman explained that the equity is now the Capital Projects Fund. Stan Barone asked to verify the Buchanan Fund balance, which is \$68,332.01. Steve Jones spoke to there being accountability for how the Buchanan Fund is handled. Brian Scott spoke his opinion that the current working group for capital improvements skirts the authority of the Trustees even with Trustees on the working group. Mark Kornmann explained that the working group is a collaboration with members consisting of both Board members and Trustees and does report back to both the Board and the Trustees. Imani Woody-Macko asked if there is tracking of restricted funds to which Rev. Dwayne answered yes.

By a show of hands, the Reports were accepted with 3 opposed and 2 abstaining.

- VI. **Motion regarding audits:** The Board of Directors moved and Donte Hunter seconded the following motion.
 1. The Board shall include funding for a formal, external audit every two years in the budget that it presents to the congregation. In addition to meeting the traditional basic standards for an external audit, this service should include a qualitative assessment of the Church's financial practices with recommendations about what can be done to improve in this area.

2. During years in which an external audit is not done, the Board shall have an alternative review conducted. A proposal for satisfying this requirement shall be adopted by March 31st of each year. If a proposal is not in place, then at its next regular meeting, the Board is directed to take whatever steps are necessary to amend the budget to pay for a basic external review.
3. The alternative review could consist of a member who is not on the Board or Finance Committee, but who is qualified to conduct an audit, volunteering this service to the congregation. Alternatively, it could consist of exchanging financial records with another congregation, with each Church's respective finance team examining the records of the other Church. In addition to a review of income and expenditures, a basic review, at a minimum, must include providing independent verification by the auditing body that the liquid assets of the Church match the numbers presented and providing supporting documentation of income and expenses. Additionally, before the review is finalized, the Board of Directors, the Finance Committee and the Buchanan Board of Trustees will be provided with documentation regarding the status of restricted accounts (with information regarding income and expenses from those accounts from the prior year) and the operating fund. The purpose of providing this information will be for each of these bodies to help identify any potential areas of concern.
4. Audits must be concluded prior to the congregational meeting with the findings to be included as part of the Treasurer's Report in materials provided during the congregational forum.
5. If the alternate method of auditing/reviewing proves successful, consideration will be given at next year's meeting of changing to the requirement for the external audit to once every three years.

Steve Jones suggests this is more of a review than an audit. Johanna Hardy offers an amendment to change the word "audit" to "review." Steve Jones offers an amendment to the amendment to use the phrase "audit or review" in every place that the word "audit" is used. The Board accepts this amendment and the amendment passes.

By show of hands the motion, as amended, passes with 1 opposed.

- VII. **2014 Budget:** The Board of Directors moved and Donte Hunter seconded to approve the Budget for 2014. By show of hands the budget passes with 1 opposed and 2 abstaining.

- VIII. **SOP Revisions:** The Board moved and Chocolate Hatcher-Miller seconded the revisions to the SOPs.

Johanna Hardy offered an amendment to add at the end of change #4 on page 4 regarding nominations the following:

"Procedures adopted under this section and amendments to such procedures shall be noticed, through all communication mediums feasible, to the congregation no later than 60 days prior to effect. Such procedures shall address the qualifications of members of the nominations committee and address potential conflicts of interest."

The Board accepted the amendment. The amendment passes with a show of hands with 1 opposed and 1 abstaining.

Tim Helm offered an amendment to change #6. In Article IV, add two sentences at the end of section 1 to read as follows:

"Minutes of all regularly scheduled and special Board meetings shall be posted on the church's web site within two (2) weeks after each meeting. The Board shall also ensure that the current version of the MCC-DC BY-LAWS is posted on the church's web site at all times."

The Board did not accept this amendment. Imani Woods seconded Tim's amendment. Board member R.J. Flowers offered the opinion that the website was not an appropriate place for the minutes given that there are adversaries who can use the information against us. The amendment passed by show of hands 25 to 22.

The SOP Revisions, as amended, passes with 2 abstaining.

- IX. Tammy Orebaugh moved and Bob Whitman seconded that the Congregational Meeting be adjourned. Meeting was adjourned at 2:15pm.

