

**MCCDC Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, January 22, 2014**

Members Present: Rev. Dwayne Johnson, Mark Kornmann, Fencia Ballard (telephonically), Kathleen Carey, Knut Panknin, Dave Jenkins, David Lord (telephonically)

Members Absent: None

Guests Present: Joe Dailey, Paul Larson, Rev. Cathy Alexander, Tom Simmons

I. Call to Order

Rev. Dwayne called he meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. and opened the meeting in prayer. The agenda was accepted as orally amended.

III. 2014 Officer Elections

Fencia nominated Mark to be Vice-Moderator. The nomination was seconded by Kathleen. Mark accepted the nomination and was elected to the position unanimously.

Mark nominated David Lord as Clerk. The nomination was seconded by Kathleen. David accepted the nomination and was elected to the position unanimously.

Mark nominated Knut as Vice-Clerk. The nomination was seconded by Fencia. Knut accepted the nomination and was elected to the position unanimously.

Dave Jenkins nominated Kathleen as Treasurer. The nomination was seconded by Mark. Kathleen accepted the nomination and was elected to the position unanimously.

Mark nominated Fencia as Assistant Treasurer. The nomination was seconded by Kathleen. Fencia accepted the nomination and was approved unanimously.

Dave Jenkins accepted nomination and selection as Member-at-Large

III. Consent Agenda

Mark moved to accept the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Knut.

Joe Dailey commented on the Buchanan Trustee's Report by noting the planned initiative by the Trustees to seek help from congregants on particular projects so that trustees are not getting overwhelmed. It was noted that Greg Snyder's term with the Trustees recently ended and he elected not to seek reappointment. There are currently two vacant positions on this committee that the Nominations Committee needs to work

on filling. Additional discussion ensued around the issues of water coming into the building and attempts to resolve this, including prior efforts with the roof repair. Mark mentioned that he would like the Board and the Trustees to get together in February to discuss how we can move and work together in 2014. Mark expressed concern about the ongoing issue of whether to hire a sexton. Specifically, given the level of investment on capital projects, there is concern about whether these investments are adequately protected if funding is not identified to hire a sexton for consistent maintenance.

The consent agenda was accepted.

IV. Informational Items

A. 472 Working Group

Mark noted that a contract had been distributed for the previously approved construction. The contract was vetted by an attorney and additional provisions were added to protect MCCDC's interests. The last tenant has found a new place and will be moving out within the next two weeks. Demolition should begin within three to four days of that happening. The total project will take 6 to 8 weeks. An Open House will occur in March after one of the services. Cost will be spread through five payments. The last payment will not occur until a final walk through happens. The 472 Working Group and Trustees will be involved with doing that.

B. Electronic Giving

Mark noted that in 2013, giving increased over the prior year from \$114,000 to \$132,000. The kiosk was a great investment as it cost \$1,700 and resulted in \$13,000 in donations over the year. The text message form of giving needs to be further developed and promoted. Auto-tithe is currently on target to raise about \$4,500 a month (to upwards of \$61,000 over a year). This is definitely an area for needed investment. We are working on developing an online giving program through SunTrust in order to decrease the costs associated with Easy Tithe.

C. Generous Hearts

This is the 2014 stewardship campaign that began at the end of 2013. Dwayne emphasized the Board's role in resourcing and supporting the campaign. There will be additional visual support (created by Joe) and emphasis in the sermons. Many of the ideas for this campaign came from the recent stewardship conference in Indianapolis. The Board needs to continue to work to impact the culture at MCCDC on all dimensions of stewardship. Rev. Cathy encouraged each member of the Board to participate in this program and to fill out the supporting forms.

D. Staffing

Rev. Dwayne and Rev. Cathy interviewed a number of individuals from inside and outside of MCCDC. Lance Johnson, an external candidate is currently being used in a contract/trial basis for both the Bookkeeper and Office Manager positions.

V. Discussion Items

A. Financial Report

2013 ended with income significantly exceeding expenses. The 2014 budget calls for \$10,000 of carry-over funding, so this excess may need to be tapped throughout the coming year. Mark noted that much of this excess income can be attributed to mid-year adjustments that the Board made to deal with ongoing financial issues. Of particular concern is the decline in attendance. This is an issue that needs to be addressed. There is also some concern regarding how numbers for the Buchanan Fund are being reported and the need to make sure that there is clarity and consistency in this issue. Dave requested that we look at different wording than "profit" when describing excess revenue as it might not sit well with many congregants.

The Board wishes to express special thanks to Phil Helbling for his recent efforts to raise holding a fundraiser to raise money for the MCCDC in the Dominican Republic. The Board also wishes to extend its gratitude to Dan Kisela who will be retiring shortly. His tireless efforts as Bookkeeper have helped keep the Church on solid financial ground.

B 2014 Mautner Project Gala

Mark moved that MCCDC again be a Ruby Red sponsor for the Mautner Project Gala. The cost will be \$2,500 and raised by selling the 10 tickets that we will get for \$250 each. If the 10 tickets are not sold, the loss will be taken from the advertising section of the budget. Fenicia seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

C. February Board Meeting

The February Board meeting by consensus to February 25th at 7:00 p.m.

D. 2013 Board Retreat Follow-Up

Rev. Dwayne noted that while the Board did a great job over the last year, one of the areas we struggled with is communicating with the

congregation and moving them with us on various issues or projects. One idea would be to do a quarterly social meeting with the Board such as pizza or light refreshments following the 11:00 service. This would create an opportunity for better ongoing input beyond just the Congregational Forum. Consideration needs to be given to how we involve 9:00 congregants and whether we should rotate the time for these forums. The 472 Open House will be the first forum.

Mark noted that we should look at restructuring the congregational forum so that it is more focused on plans for the future. Mark also suggested that we deliberately invite people to come to the Board meeting to talk with us about their perspective on the Church. We previously talked about doing living room chats in people's homes. This should be given additional attention in the coming year.

In looking back at 2013, significant energy was spent on financial endeavors and creating better procedures for day to day and yearly management of finances. In 2014, additional emphasis should be placed on long-term/3 to 5 year financial planning and the need for a capital budget.

Rev. Dwayne noted the potential emphasis in 2014 on the audio-visual ministry. This is key to expanding our external doormat and attracting people to the Church. Kathleen noted that there is external money that might be available for this kind of project. This might be another way to also keep members who are aging out of regular participation in the congregation or moving to other areas.

Mark would like to see additional focus in 2014 on leadership of the Church coming together. Mark would like to see a session where we identify what we as a congregation are doing, who is currently doing it and who we can reach out to in order to try to expand the basis of participation.

VI. Executive Session

Kathleen moved to go into executive session with Tom Simmons and Rev. Cathy as invited guests. The motion was seconded by Dave Jenkins. Kathleen subsequently moved to exit executive session. The motion was seconded by Mark.

VII. Adjournment

Dave Jenkins moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 p.m. The motion was seconded by Knut and passed unanimously. Rev. Cathy then led the Board in a closing prayer.

