

**Minutes of the MCCDC Board of Directors
Tuesday, August 18, 2015**

Members Present: Kathleen Carey, Dave Jenkins (on phone), Rev. Dwayne Johnson, Mark Kornmann, Knut Panknin

Trustees Present: Jim Garner

Guests Present: Rev. Cathy Alexander, Tyrone Stanley (on phone)

Call to Order/Opening Prayer

Rev. Dwayne called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and he opened with a prayer.

I. **Consent Agenda**

Rev. Dwayne asked to move one item on the agenda up and call Tyrone Stanley at 7:15pm to present his proposal for the Christmas concert. Cathleen moved to receive the updated consent agenda. Knut seconded and the motion was approved unanimously. Rev. Dwayne then highlighted some points from his report, such as his role as Elder on the denominational task force on racial reconciliation, the emerging Stewardship Leadership team, a special prayer vigil next week being held at MCCDC for the Trans* Community and “Friends and Family Day” on September 27th with a suggestion to sponsor a pancake breakfast.

Knut moved to accept the agenda and Mark seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

II. **Discussion/Voting Item**

Christmas Concert

Worship Arts Minister for the 11am service, Tyrone Stanley, presented his proposal and budget for the Christmas concert, scheduled for December 4 & 5, 2015. He envisions a Christmas Cantata with the title “Star of Bethlehem”, a live nativity scene and acting, singing and dance. The concert would feature six new musical pieces – many of them DC premiers – and guest musicians such as Donna Mitchell-Cox and Nova Payton. The proposed budget is \$11,950.

Kathleen and Mark asked about the budget and whether he would plan to sell tickets, get donations or a love offering. Kathleen also asked whether decorations for the season would be coordinated with the concert schedule.

Rev. Dwayne mentioned that there has been some push back on ticket sales last year and that he would advocate for both, sales of tickets and a love offering. At the same time, MCCDC would not turn anyone away who cannot purchase a ticket.

Mark also said that love offerings usually yield about \$1,500 and that the church sold about 260 tickets in 2014. In order to make up for the proposed budget, the concert would need to sell out both nights (maximum 440 tickets for \$25 each).

The Board expressed its confidence in the product and commended Tyrone for the level of artistic skills he is planning to bring in. At the same time, the Board asked for more time to address the budget issue. Tyrone was asked not to make any firm commitments before the Board approves the budget.

III. **Informational Items**

A. **Shout-Outs**

Shout-outs went out to:

- Jerry Miller from the choir for his faithful service and leadership;
- The Older Adults Ministry for the church picnic;
- Elizabeth McCain for her workshop and preaching;
- And Jorge Delgado for delivering the message this past Sunday.

B. **Trustees**

Jim Garner had no specific update on the Trustees but said that he would like to start meeting regularly again. He also asked for advice on the list of projects that the Trustees will need to address.

C. **472 Update**

Mark reported that the church closed on Eagle Bank's construction loan this past Thursday and that the bank puts the first twelve months interest only payment into an escrow account. Once the church has signed leases for the apartment, the money can be released. The total cash the church received for construction is \$227,176.

The inspector asked the contractor to remove one side of the dry walls in all rooms in order to check whether everything has been done in a way that meets code. The electrician already fixed some things that did not, such as the number of outlets. The inspector also said that the three permits for electricity, plumbing and HVAC had expired in April 2015, and that he could not sign off of anything until the permits have been renewed. This has to be done by the craftsperson for each trade. The electrician said it would cost \$1,300 for him to get his permit. Mark contacted DCRA

to figure out what steps need to be taken to renew the permits and what the costs involved would be. He hopes to have the questions resolved by the end of the week.

With regards to the taxes for 472, Mark reported another problem: The taxes were paid but the city informed us that the church's deed was not in the church's proper name (it was abbreviated). The Menkiti Group will try to resolve this issue by Friday.

The contractor will provide measurements for the appliances by Friday, and after Lance's return, Mark will make a budget and also have Lance transfer the first two payments for the contractor that had been made out of the General Fund back into it (\$12,600).

D. 45 Years Campaign

Rev. Dwayne presented the latest numbers for the fundraising part of the campaign. While there has been positive feedback overall, the numbers (participants and fundraising itself) were not where we would like them to be. He said that he would continue the campaign's message and make the case in the coming Sundays.

E. Backpack4Kids

Mark gave an update on the Backpack4Kids program. So far, about \$3,000 have been raised and after sending out an Eblast on Tuesday, he will send personal emails as well. A special thank you went to Betsy Cramer for fundraising 57 backpacks through her neighborhood. Rev. Dwayne and Rev. Cathy will also be on live TV on NBC4 on Thursday afternoon at 4pm. The Board thanked Mark for making this possible again.

F. Treasurer's Report

Kathleen provided account balances and profit/loss sheets. As of August 13th, the accounts had the following balances:

General:	\$28,369
Buchanan:	\$8,289
Petty Cash:	\$200

She voiced her criticism that the accountant had not cleaned up the accounts yet and that we would need clean accounts by next month. She also said that any payments should be withheld until this has been resolved. Mark added that we also need a conversation with the accountant on the refinance documents. They are not on file and the accountant was the last one who had them.

Mark asked about the high bank service charges for July and the payment that was made out of the McCann/Parks fund.

Rev. Dwayne explained that the emergency financial assistance that he approved was an exception and based on the person's involvement in the church life and constant giving. While Mark supports the help generally, he asked that the Board would need to approve these expenses, and that we need consistent messaging on the issue. Kathleen supported the Pastor's exception and said that he needs some flexibility on those decisions. Mark and Kathleen both criticized the contract labor costs for office administration, and Rev. Dwayne said that this would not be paid due to the lack of Board approval.

IV. **Discussion/Voting Item**

G. **Mautner Gala**

Mark informed the Board that this year's gala, the 25th anniversary, would take place on Friday, September 25th, from 8pm-12am at Union Market's Dock 5. Last year's sponsor level of \$2,500 would get us only 6 tickets this year instead of 10 and he asked whether to support this event.

Kathleen said that this is the one activity the church does with an exclusive focus on women and she wondered about the message it would send to the church if we would not support it. She will contact the person handling the fundraising and ask whether we could get 10 tickets again for \$2,500. She also said she would purchase a ticket.

H. **Nominations Committee**

Knut will serve as the Board member on the Nominations Committee this year. Given the challenges and projects underway, the Board asked him to pay special attention to the qualifications and skill sets congregants need to have in order to serve on the Board.

I. **Budget Committee / Bylaws**

Kathleen will meet with Rev. Dwayne and Rev. Cathy to discuss the budget for 2016, and she will also look at the Bylaw changes around giving for ministries.

Mark moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. Knut seconded and the motion was approved unanimously. Rev. Cathy closed the meeting in prayer.