

**Minutes of the MCCDC Board of Directors  
Tuesday, October 28, 2015**

**Members Present:** Fenicia Ballard (by phone), Kathleen Carey, Rev. Dwayne Johnson, Mark Kornmann, Knut Panknin, Bobbi Strang

**Guests Present:** Rev. Cathy Alexander

**Call to Order/Opening Prayer**

Rev. Dwayne called the meeting to order at 7:21 p.m. and he opened with a prayer. A quorum was established.

**I. Discussion/Voting Items**

**A. 2016 Budget**

Kathleen presented an updated budget proposal with three categories (revised 2015 budget, 2016 budget with no salary increases and 2016 budget with salary increases) to see the effect on the bottom line. Based on a projected total income of \$505,000, the 2016 budget with no salary increases would end up with \$25,805 in the red, and the more aspirational budget with a \$525,000 projected income would leave us with a negative of \$37,789.

Dwayne asked what that meant for weekly giving and the 2016 budget with no salary increases would require \$10,208 in weekly giving and the aspirational budget with increases would require \$10,823.

Mark made some general comments on the budget proposal. He said that we needed a decision on restricted funds as they have been depleted this year. We would either need to replenish them or zero them out. He also said that fundraising for special projects is up but giving for the general fund is down. We would need \$74,000 in giving for the rest of the year to meet last year's income – right now we are at \$306,000 in offerings and we received \$380,000 in 2014. The projected giving for 2016 of \$395,00 is too optimistic in his view. He also reminded the Board of the cash flow struggle that we have had this year and called for a bare bones budget with no increases. The additional expenses can only be made once we get the income that supports them. While he was trying to be upbeat this year, he said that we needed to act more responsibly in 2016. Therefore, he cannot support any increases while we struggle paying our bills. Any increases would be a tough sell to the congregation.

Fenicia also supported a more realistic budget with no increases until we get more income.

Bobbi advocated for a more aspirational budget. People are giving more when there is optimism, and we could always cut back if giving does not match our projected income.

Knut said that he would support a cost of living adjustment of 1-1,5% but he would generally also favor a less aspirational budget. Given that the congregation has not stepped up the way we expected them to do around the first phase of the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary campaign, it would be reasonable to expect less income in general giving 2016.

Dwayne favored a “both and” approach. He pointed to the stability in the worship arts ministry and more consistency, which also translates to higher giving. Additionally, we are moving closer on finishing 472, and the stewardship team has formed. Overall, he expects more giving in 2016, so that he supports a more aspirational budget than the no increase one. He acknowledged the different philosophies as expressed by the Board members, and expected a vote that might not be unanimous. However, we need to present a budget to the congregation and we need to be able to present it in a unified way. Cathy also agreed with a small aspirational budget.

Bobbi moved to adopt the 2016 budget proposal with a 1% COLA as presented by Kathleen who seconded the motion. The motion was friendly amended with a reduced line item amount of \$11,850 for ministry and programming (5160), and without any increases for the Senior Pastor’s salary. The total salary line item (5100) would be \$178,037.

Before taking a vote, Mark asked how we would make up the deficit and that we could not present a budget that was not balanced. He could not support this amended budget. Instead, he presented an amendment to go with the revised 2015 budget as a base line, and add rental income from 472. Bobbi and Kathleen did not support this amendment.

Kathleen then amended Bobbi’s motion by adding \$13,000 to the projected offerings, which would total \$408,000.

The Board voted 4:2 in favor of Bobbi’s amended motion for the 2016 budget.

Fenicia closed the meeting in prayer at 9:07 p.m.