



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

August 15, 2017, 7PM

Members Present: Moderator Rev. Dwayne Johnson, Lilah Blackstone, Jim Garner, Tim Helm, Vice Moderator, Knut Panknin, Bobbi Strang

Guests Present: Rev. Cathy Alexander and Lauren Bennett

Opening Prayer

The meeting started at 7:03pm

1. Song and Scripture- Rev. Dwayne provide the scripture: Luke 24:13-32
Jim shared the song: U2's "Grace" covered by Nicole Nordeman
For September's meeting, Bobbi will provide the scripture and Knut will have the song.

Motion to accept the Agenda was made by Knut and seconded by Bobbi; Motion was unanimously adopted.

Lilah moved to receive the consent calendar items; seconded by Knut; Motion was unanimously adopted.

2. Consent Calendar (5 minutes)
 - Clerk's Report
 - Sr. Pastor's Report
 - Trustees Report – no report
3. Informational Items: (25 minutes)
 - The Board shared the following "Shout-Outs"
 - Everyone who contributed to making Partnership Sunday happen
 - Rev. Y'lon Dozier for leading the services while Rev. Dwayne and Rev. Cathy were attending the People of African Descent Conference in St. Louis
 - Knut, Lauren, and Rev. Cathy shared their experience at the PAD conference with the Board.
 - M Street Lot Proposal Update – Tim and Jim
 - Tim reported that the counsel is developing a brochure to market the property to developers and we should have a draft to review this week. Tim said they have asked to know the capacity for the congregation – we need to have one parking space for every 7 square feet of useable sanctuary space. The Board indicated they would entertain any offers but would give greater weight to ones that preserve 14 parking spaces.
 - Arbitration: Jim reported that he reached out to attorney Peter Glazer with the option to represent the church in the arbitration against the previous contractor and to handle the easement matter. Peter was not interested and stated he was only interested in the whole package of legal work, including the M Street Development. Jim suggested having Cozen handle the easement and that the board compile information, facts, damages, and a timeline concerning the actions of the previous contractor to use in finding an attorney to represent MCCDC in the arbitration. The Board members were asked to pull together whatever material/records they have concerning interactions

with Pickney Construction. Jim and Tim agreed to do a search of church records. Knut will reach out to Mark Kornmann for any information he can share.

- Board and Trustees Vacancy – Knut
 - Knut reported that he visited with a congregant about serving as an interim board member to fill John’s vacant position, but she decided the time was not right for her at this time. It was noted that we only have three board meetings until the next Board elections, so we can probably function with six members until then and do not need an interim member.
 - It was also noted that there is on-going need to fill vacancies on the Trustees
 - Please send additional names to Knut/Dwayne
- Church Alcohol Policy – Rev. Cathy
 - Rev Cathy shared information requested at the previous board meeting on policies used by other MCC churches. She also shared that she contacted our insurance provided and that our insurance policy would cover any resulting damages.
 - She also noted the alcohol use policy can be crafted in any manner the Board wished, including matters such as presence of minors, requiring food be served, and that alcohol not be the focus of the event.
 - The policy is being discussed because the church has lost building rentals for weddings, etc., because we do not allow alcohol to be served in church.
 - One possible option discussed was for the policy to allow use of alcohol (beer and wine) at events when the space is rented, but not be allowed at any church/MCCDC-sponsored events or activities.
 - Knut suggested finding some way to get a “sense of the congregation” on this type of policy. The Board agreed to be very transparent on this and share a draft policy with the congregation to gauge feedback and feelings. Rev. Cathy will draft a policy for eth Board to review and develop bullet points to include in the church bulletin. The goal is to aim for the issue to be ready for discussion and action by the October Board meeting.

4. Discussion/Voting Items: (45 minutes)

- Treasurer’s Report – Tim
 - Tim shared that expenditures are on target as presented in the 2017 budget. However, the income is not at the level set in the budget, so adjustments will be needed. Tim indicated that it is time to start thinking about the 2018 budget preparation. There was a discussion about the “Fundraising” line item, which is not producing well. We need to consider whether we want to keep this level of fundraising in 2018 or simply focus on increasing offerings.
 - The Backpack for Kids fundraiser is underway. The goal is to support up to 300 kids this year.
 - **Motion to receive treasurer’s was made by Jim; and seconded by Bobbi; and approved unanimously**
 - The Board members agreed to continue giving the offering messages and signed up to cover the Sundays between now and the next Board meeting.
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- Strategic Planning Update – Rev. Dwayne
 - Rev. Dwayne shared a proposal for consultant and facilitation services for the Strategic Planning project. The Board discussed and asked questions about the proposal. Lilah recommended that the proposal include deliverables, notably that a report documenting the outcomes of the strategic planning meeting and capturing any next steps should be included as a deliverable by the consultant.

- **Tim moved to approve the contract with Hill Consulting to provide support to the strategic planning process in an amount not to exceed \$2000 to be paid out of line item numbered 5080 and to include the suggestion made by Lilah concerning clear deliverables. Lilah seconded the motion. The Motion passed unanimously.**

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5. Announcements/Events

- Sandra Morris (MCC Toronto), Holy Conversation on Mental Health, August 26, 2-5 p.m.
- Ignite Service, August 27
- Spiritual Writing Workshop, Rev. Robin August 30, 2017, at 7 p.m.
- Memorial Service for Delores Berry will be held Saturday, September 2, 2017.
- Breast Cancer Walk, Sept 9, 2017
- “Ablaze with Praise” Revival @ MCCDC, September 15-17, 2017

6. Executive Session

- There was no Executive Session

Adjournment/Closing Prayer

At 8:49pm, Knut **moved to adjourn the meeting. Tim seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.**
Jim closed the meeting with a prayer.

“What did we do in tonight’s meeting that helped us accomplish our mission?”

