



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

January 16, 2018, 7PM

Moderator: Rev. Dwayne Johnson

Board Members attending: Lilah Blackstone, Jim Garner, Linda Hornsby, Knut Panknin, and Bobbi Strang attended in person. Tim Helm participated in the meeting by teleconference.

Guests attending: Rev. Cathy Alexander and Donte Hunter. Elodie Huttner attended for the last 20 minutes of the meeting.

Opening Prayer

The meeting convened at 7:03 p.m. Everyone enjoyed cake brought by Linda Hornsby and deserts brought by Knut Panknin in celebration of Rev. Cathy's birthday.

1. Song and Scripture

- Bobbi Strang shared the scripture, reading Proverbs 25:11
- Tim Helm shared the song playing "It's Your Birthday (New Christian Happy Birthday Song) (in honor of Rev. Cathy's birthday)
- For the February 20, 2018, meeting, Linda will share a scripture and Jim Garner will share a song.

2. Approval of the Agenda. Rev. Dwayne Johnson requested the addition under Other Matters that we select dates for the 2018 regular Congregational Forum and Congregational Meeting. **Lilah Blackstone moved to approve the agenda as presented with the item added by Rev. Dwayne. Bobbi seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.**

3. Consent Calendar. **Knut moved to accept the consent calendar items. Jim seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.**

- Clerk's Report – December 17, 2017 Congregational Meeting minutes
- Sr. Pastor's Report – provided by Rev. Dwayne
- Trustees Report – no report

4. Informational Items

- Shout-Outs – The Board issued "shout outs" to the following:
 - Johanna Hardy and the Livestream ministry for the ongoing good work they are doing and the continuing improvements to the look and feel of live stream webcast.
 - Jules Christian and the Drama Ministry for the continuing improvements and productions offered as part of our worship experience.
 - Cathy Batson for the dance she offered and performed during last Sunday's service.
- Trustees Meeting and Action

- Knut reported that the Trustees will meet on January 17, 2018 at MCCDC at 6 p.m. This will be an organizational meeting with the goal of establishing regular trustees' meetings, discussing priorities for 2018, and discussing the proposed sale of the M Street lot property.
- Board Retreat
 - Rev. Dwayne shared that the Board retreat will occur on January 20, 2018, at 9:30 a.m. and the Trustees have been invited to participate but many will not be able to attend.
 - The retreat will be a goal-focused, goal-setting event. More information will be provided.
- Sale of Adjacent Lot Discussion Sessions
 - Tim provided an update on discussions with Sun Trust on sub-platting the M Street property. The Bank will likely want a new appraisal of the church property minus the M Street lot to determine the value of collateral to loan. It is anticipated that the appraisal will cost around \$5,000. The Board agreed to hold off proceeding with an appraisal until we know if the congregation is supportive of moving forward with the sale of the property.
 - Tim and Knut discussed the upcoming listening session after Sunday's services on January 21, 2018. Knut has prepared a Power Point to share and made the changes suggested by board members. Tim offered to be available in the chapel after the 9:00 a.m. service for those that will not be available after the 11:00 service.
 - Knut was able to attend the Young Adult Ministry meeting last Sunday and engaged in a good conversation about the proposal. He noted that two good questions from the group were 1) will we use professional investment advice for the fund, including use of socially responsible investments, and 2) how does this fit with strategic planning efforts.
 - Rev. Cathy has a schedule for talking to the other ministry groups.
- Strategic Planning Update
 - Rev. Dwayne reported that the next meeting of the strategic planning work group is February 3, 2018. He and Rev. Cathy are working with Amy Hill (contractor) on planning for this upcoming meeting. Rev. Cathy said that the group is in the challenging information gathering phase of planning needed to determine priorities.
- Day Care Center Exploration
 - Rev. Cathy shared that the person exploring renting space in the church for a day care has lots of work still to do to obtain licensing with the DC government. A draft lease agreement has been developed for use in the DC government process. More information will come before the board if this moves forward.
 - Bobbi pointed out that this might affect our Project Empowerment program. She recommended talking to the DC authorities to obtain new background checks that will be necessary. Those would be paid for by the city.
- You 90
 - Rev. Cathy shared that this new discipleship course will begin on January 18, 2018 at 7 p.m. It is a mind, body, and spirit focused approach, including a study of Brene Brown's book, "Rising Strong," body work (exercise) and spiritual work.
- Creating Change
 - The National Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgendered Task Force is hosting the conference in Washington DC, January 24-28, 2018. An expected 3000

attendees are expected. MCCDC has 10 volunteers signed up to help with the conference (including Rev. Dwayne and Rev. Cathy). For more information see creatingchange.org

- Interim Moderator Forum
 - Rev. Dwayne shared that MCC's Interim Moderator will meet with congregants on January 28, 2018 at 12:30 p.m. He is meeting with the group that wrote the letter to the denomination raising concerns on January 21, 2018, to finalize plans and guidelines for this upcoming meeting.

5. Discussion/Voting Items

- Treasurer's Report
 - Tim reported that the church's accountant, bookkeeper, Treasurer, Vice Treasurer, and Rev. Cathy held an extensive work session last week to close out the 2017 books. He reported that the church ended the year with \$7,000 cash on hand, but with about \$100,000 in approved budget items not being spent, including equipment needs and \$10,000 obligations to the pastor's pension fund and the associate pastor's pension fund.
 - **Tim made a motion that the Board authorize that payment of \$909.00 (\$454.50 each) to the pastor's pension fund and to the associate pastor's pension fund to cover the 2017 unpaid obligations and that the payments be made on the 3rd Sunday of each month beginning in February 2018. Lilah seconded the motion. Knut offered a friendly amendment (agreed to by the mover and the seconder of the motion) to make the amount to be "a minimum of \$909.00" so that larger amounts can be contributed if available. The Motion was unanimously accepted. Rev. Dwayne abstained from this vote.**
 - **Knut moved to receive and accept the Treasurer's Report. Bobbi seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.**
- Other Matters
 - **Jim moved that the 2018 Regular Congregational Forum be held on November 4, 2018, and that the 2018 Regular Congregational Meeting be held on November 18, 2018. Knut seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously adopted.**

6. Announcements/Events

- Second Board Retreat (with Trustees) – January 20, 2018, 9:30 a.m.
- All Church Chili-Feed and Listening Session – January 21, 2018 at 12:30 p.m.
- Strategic Planning Meeting – February 3, 2018
- Congregational Meeting – February 11, 2018, at 12:30 p.m.
- **Next Board Meeting – February 20, 2018**

Adjournment/Closing Prayer

Lilah moved, and Linda seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

Rev. Cathy offered a prayer to close the meeting.

Adjourned at 8:45 pm