



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

April 25, 2017, 7PM

Members Present: Rev. Dwayne Johnson, Moderator, Lilah Blackstone (by phone), Jim Garner, Tim Helm, John Merriwether, and Bobbi Strang. Knut Panknin was away on travel. Also present was Rev. Cathy Alexander

AGENDA

Opening Prayer

The Meeting convened at 7:08 p.m. with Rev. Dwayne leading the group in prayer. Tim Helm shared a scripture reading of Matthew 6:25-34, and Bobbi Strang shared the song “800 Pound Jesus” performed by Sawyer Brown.

Bobbi Strang moved to accept the Agenda as presented. John Merriwether seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

Consent Calendar – Jim Garner moved and John seconded to approved the Consent Calendar and to receive the Sr. Pastor’s Report. There was no Clerk’s Report and no Trustees Report for this month. The motion was approved unanimously.

Informational Items

Shout-Outs – The Board offered the following “shout outs”:

- Jose Gutierrez for receiving the 2017 Distinguished Service Award from the Gay and Lesbian Action Alliance.
- The members of the Worship Arts Ministry, the Sound Board/Live Streaming Team, Actors, and Ushers for their contributions to making Resurrection Sunday’s services special and memorable.
- Johanna Hardy for her leadership of the Bible in 90 Days in 2017.

One Year Internship at MCCDC – Rev. Dwayne announced that Lauren Bennett will be serving a one year internship with MCCDC as part of her preparation for the MCC clergy and for her requirements as she pursues her M.Div. at Wesley Seminary. The internship will start on June 1, 2017, and will go through May 31, 2018.

Issues around Immigrants, Refugees, Foreigners, and Strangers (our Neighbors) -- Rev. Dwayne noted that Trustee member Scott Frazier had shared with him possible signage that could be displayed. The sign states: “No matter where you are from, we’re glad you’re our neighbor.” The message is displayed in three languages. The consensus of the Board was for Rev. Dwayne to proceed in this direction.

472 Update – Tim reported that he may have a lead on a path forward on getting permits needed to proceed with development of the lower level rental unit at the property. He and Jim will pursue a meeting with neighboring developer/contractor Earl Horton to discuss further. Tim hopes to meet with Mr. Horton before the next meeting.

Parking Update – The Parking Lot has been repaved.

People of African Descent (PAD) Conference – Rev. Cathy reported that nine registrations have been made so far for MCCDC members, including two of our Lay Delegates, to attend the PAD Conference. The early bird registration period was extended to April 28.

Items from retreat with Ministry leaders

- Pride Outreach (including promoting MCCDC live streaming) – Rev. Dwayne announced that the Latin Pride Service will be held at MCCDC.
- Building Tours/Adoption of facilities projects – Jim noted that he and Trustee Denise Wright need to meet and develop a plan to implement these items.
- Other items – Rev. Cathy noted that we need to make sure the owners of projects identified during the retreat have clear owners to ensure tasks are conducted.

Discussion/Voting Items:

- Treasurer’s Report – Tim shared the Treasurer’s Report and walked through the comparison of the actual revenue and expenditures to the budgeted amounts. At this point we are three months into the year and should be at about the 25% level for revenue and expenditures. Tim suggested that we should plan to conduct a mid-year update with the congregation on how we are doing – a financial check in. Bobbi moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report and John seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- Strategic Planning next steps – Rev. Dwayne started a conversation on how to proceed with strategic planning for the church which was one of the significant priorities identified during the recent retreat with ministry leaders. Rev. Dwayne noted that this will likely be a 9 to 12 month undertaking. The general structure discussed was to engage/hire a team lead or consultant to help direct the process and have a planning team of 7 to 9 volunteers. The Board agreed that this process is critical to growing the church and that we will need to find the funding necessary to support this effort. The next step is to explore possible consultants to lead the process, including discussing this with Don Eastman and reaching out to Steve Jones and Dale Curtis to see if they are aware of any possible individuals that could provide this service.
- Trustee recruitment – The Board continued to discuss the need to recruit new members of the Trustees. The Board agreed to look among regular attendees to find possible recruits.

Announcements/Events

- Writing Workshop with Rev. Robin, Wednesday, April 26, 2017
- MCC Baltimore 45th Anniversary Celebration, Sunday, May 20, 2017, 3 PM
- Transgender Equality Lobby Day, June 8-9, 2017
- MCC People of African Descent Conference, St. Louis, August 3-5, 2017

Executive Session

At the request of Rev. Dwayne, Jim made and Tim seconded a motion that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. The motion passed unanimously. The session lasted about 15 minutes. Bobbi moved and Tim seconded that the Board close the Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment/Closing Prayer -- John moved to adjourn the meeting and Tim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. It was noted that the Board will be back on its regular schedule in May – meeting on the third Tuesday of the month. The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 16, 2017, at 7:00 p.m.

Rev. Dwayne offered a closing prayer. The meeting concluded at 9:05 p.m.

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