



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

January 17, 2017, 7PM

Moderator: Rev. Dwayne Johnson

Board Members: Lilah Blackstone, Jim Garner, Tim Helm, John Merriwether, Knut Panknin, Bobbi Strang

Trustees: none

Guests: Rev. Cathy Alexander

AGENDA

Opening Prayer:

1. Song and Scripture- Tim Helm, scripture: Philippians, 4:4-8 & Knut Panknin, song: Kari Jobe – “We Are”

Positive scripture message; Tim worries a great deal, reading and meditating on Bible helps to train yourself to turn things over to God; integrate spirituality in day to day business

Next month: Scripture: Bobbi; Song: John

Motion to receive the agenda: Knut; 2nd Lilah

Motion passed

2. Election of 2017 Officers

Based on expressed interest of board members, Dwayne moved to nominate as a slate of officers: Knut as Vice Moderator, Jim as Clerk, Lilah as Vice-Clerk, Tim as Treasurer, John as Asst.-Treasurer, Bobbi as at-large

Second: Bobbi

Question Lilah: Vice-Clerk or Assistant Clerk? Official title is Vice-Clerk

The members were asked if they would accept the nominations? Each replied “Yes.”

The Motion passed unanimously

3. Consent Calendar

- Clerk’s Report
- Sr. Pastor’s Report
- Trustees Report

John moved to receive consent calendar, 2nd by Bobbi

The Motion carried unanimously.

4. Informational Items:

Shout-Outs-All:

- Trustees/Scott Frazier for seeing through the project on gender neutral bathrooms
- Lauren Bennett and Courtney La Prince for launching Ignite service
- Johanna Hardy for work on life streaming, interviews on Facebook live, and the Bible in 90 days
- Timothy Duncan, Greg Snyder and Knut: taking down Christmas decorations
- Kathleen Carey for years of service at MCCDC; she is moving up North in future; The Board discussed ideas for something special for a Sunday in February (pictures for movie)

472 Update & Forum 2017-Tim Helm

- structural engineer – hasn't reached city official yet on whether two doors or one door and window is sufficient ingress/egress; engineer believes we cannot have two windows: window well and door; wants answer from city first; has appointment to press case tomorrow;
- Once the Board receives feedback from engineer, we can get plans cleaned up and determine a path ahead
- Property Management company: power outage in one unit (half panel went out); electrician was sent (surge issue); quick response from management
- One tenant raised question on snow and salt: Tim salted when doing parking lot; agreement to continue doing removal and salt for 472 and have salt in vestibule for back up
- Jim asked about an idea Brian Scott shared about digging out side walk as an alternative solution to the ingress/egress issue. Waiting to see what engineer learns before exploring if we need it
- Vice-Moderator should help move project along
- Forum for full congregation is being planned for a date to be determined; Board and Trustees will meet on Jan 29th after the 11 am service to discuss

Emergency and Safety Procedures Review-Rev. Dwayne Johnson

- Dwayne did not receive questions or any further feedback; he will bring document back for discussion and vote at the next meeting

Welcome Sign for Immigrants-Rev. Dwayne Johnson

- Rev. Dwayne brought up interest in the church displaying a sign declaring that immigrants are welcome at MCCDC.
- Example of a sign from a Silver Spring church was shared; the actual verbiage and design will be decided later;
- John asked if the banner would be temporary or stay up? It would be intended as an ongoing banner
- It was mentioned that it may be worth exploring if this would be a shared message with UFCDC

- Dwayne noted that he is bringing this to the Board to discuss possible liability issues to discuss possible responses for liability (such as potential damage to property); need good communication; important to make a statement of welcome
- Knut: What does welcome include -- does this also mean sanctuary? That is a matter that needs to be further researched
- Cathy: include immigrants & refugees; also there would be a need to discuss with congregation: educate and make clear what welcome looks like; only put up sign if we are truly welcoming; training and how to lead congregation into this statement
- Jim noted that we need to research where we would refer anyone who may seek sanctuary? Any City resources to direct people to? Encouraged that the Message be as simple as possible; and suggested adding scripture passage on welcoming foreigners/strangers
- Bobbi will research and share info on DC as a Sanctuary City; not actively pursue undocumented or work with ICE to deport undocumented

Bible in 90 Days-Knut Panknin

- 15 people at church, 6 on the phone, live streaming;
- three Board members participating; encouragement for others to join B90

5. Discussion/Voting Items:

Treasurer's Report and December 2016 Finals-John Merriwether

- Good year; ended with net revenue in 2016: \$51,298 (minus tithes of Dec. and mortgage payment both booked back to December as well as pension payment of about \$500/line item 5113); Cathy recommends to make pension payment quarterly moving forward
- Current SunTrust account balance/General Fund: \$56,745.39
- Cathy: raised a question on what would trigger or restore 5% pay cut? The Board began a discussion on the pay cuts to pastors implemented in 2016
- Tim: money saved from 2016 – Take some of it and put into short term reserve (benefits: less worried about checks; flexibility for short term expenses); we can share with congregation: we did good; we ended the year with positive balance; we paid each obligation; how can we best use as seeds to grow church?
- Lilah: decision to reduce salary? When can we address eliminating the pay reductions?
- Tim: Board did not make a decision on when or what would trigger returning to previous levels of pay; stewardship can work effectively when bills are paid and we are moving into vision part; congregation desired to be successful and continued to faithfully give after resignation of Board Members; transparency was important
- Dwayne: delicate balance - being good stewards/strong management but also vision; clear information on balances and income/expenses will help continue to build confidence
- Cathy: idea to welcome new people with introduction that people serve on the Board; identify that you are in leadership
- Dwayne: Discussed the role of Board members as ambassadors; identify yourself at events and speak about the work you do at MCCDC
- Tim: Sunday counters? A sign-up sheet for February counters was distributed
- **Tim moved to receive treasurer's report; 2nd by Lilah; the Motion passed**

Accountant's Compilation Report 2015-Rev. Cathy Alexander

- Cathy met with Jeff McGary, certified public accountant hired by the Board; according to peer review restrictions: Jeff says he does not have independent view of our books as he made changes to books; however, he has no financial interest in our books
- Compilation is not an audit: we gave Jeff documents we had; he has suggestions procedurally going forward to improve accounting records, e.g. fundraising is invisible on our income statement
- Made changes in how loan documents are reported on records (were not properly accounted for)
- Construction loan – appreciation for increased value of building (page 9)
- Buchanan Fund: The Board needs to do address this year how to handle the fund; it is chartered fund with purpose; yet we need conversation if we want it to operate as a building fund and not just mortgage payment fund (page 9)
- Jim noted the date on the last page needs corrected: statement for 2015 and not 2014
- Cathy: need to pay Jeff and decide whether to retain him or not for 2017
- Tim: did we budget expense for him in 2016? Cathy not sure, will check (if not, we would have to pay him out of the 2016 surplus reserve discussed earlier)
- Cathy: \$90 an hour is what other accountants ask for; Jeff knows the records; could see if we can get him to do it again for \$4,500; tax services; and also accounting services throughout the year for our bookkeeper
- Tim moved to receive the accountant's compilation report, with noted date correction; Knut seconds the motion.
- Knut has questions about Note 10 (page 7): refinancing both loans – do they refer to 474 loans that have been consolidated into a new loan with a lower interest rate?; prepayment fees: document says that they should have been written off – does that mean they were not written off and what would that have meant financially? Explanation for subtracting it in 2013 and adding it in 2015 (\$46,589)?; Question Tim and Knut: "The effect on the prior periods if the fees had been correctly written off in 2013 is:". Information missing after that – is prior period adjustment at top of page supposed to go there?
- **Due to additional questions: Knut moved to table the motion to accept the report until these clarifications are provided; Jim 2nd the motion; the Motion passed unanimously**

Special Unity Worship Service of MCCDC and UFDC, August 13th

- Dwayne reported that he met with Rev. Abena to explore conducting one combined worship service at 12noon with a combined sermon. Offering would be handled by providing envelopes for designated for each congregation to distinguish giving and kiosk for MCCDC; unidentified giving would be equally split between two congregations
- **Proposal requires motion; Lilah moved to have a joint/combined service with UFDC on August 13, 2017; Knut 2nd the motion; the Motion passed unanimously**

BoD and Lay Delegate Attendance at PAD Conference-Rev. Dwayne Johnson/Rev. Cathy Alexander

- The demonization's People of African Descent (PAD) Conference will be held on Aug 3-5, 2017, in St. Louis, Missouri; attendance goal is 20 from MCCDC
- Dwayne stated that all Lay Delegates should attend and as many Board members as possible

Black History Month (BHM) Concert-Rev. Dwayne Johnson

- Tyrone said that he is not sure about the likelihood of having a full voiced choir to do the concert
- Dwayne: BHM concert is of importance for us and for the community; he attended choir rehearsal and asked for show of hands either supporting the concert or a smaller ensemble style with guest artists: more support around ensemble approach from music ministry to ensure level of excellence
- Dwayne: other ideas: special emphasis Sundays with different music styles (reggae, gospel, etc.); an evening revival style service with speaker and ensemble
- budget requirement around ensemble and guest artists would be higher than revival idea
- Lilah: date? Dwayne: Saturday, Feb. 25th; more attendance on Saturday evening
- Knut: two issues – one is making a great BHM concert, the other is question of fewer voices and lower support in music ministry (longer term); need to address both
- Dwayne: need future listening post within music ministry concerning the longer term issue; concerning the BHM concert, we need an idea to approve a budget ceiling?
- Jim: remembers great BHM concert with different voices in past
- John: one concern from prior listening post – why do we need to bring in outside guests with additional resources?
- Knut: possible UFCDC cooperation? Dwayne/Cathy: Implementation challenge
- **Knut moved to approve funding for the Black History Month concert on February 25th with a budget ceiling of \$3,000. Bobbi had a friendly amendment that if Tyrone Stanley cannot commit the time and resources needed to do an excellent concert, the Pastor has the Board's approval to implement an evening revival style service instead. Knut accepted the amendment and Bobbi seconded the motion. It passed with one opposing vote.**

Adjournment/Closing Prayer

Bobbi moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:04pm and Lilah seconded. The motion passed. Rev. Dwayne closed the meeting in prayer.

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