



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

November 21, 2017, 7PM

Moderator: Rev. Dwayne Johnson

Board Members: Lilah Blackstone, Jim Garner, Tim Helm, Linda Hornsby, Knut Panknin, and Bobbi Strang

Guests: Rev. Cathy Alexander, Lauren Bennett, Paul Yang, Stephen George, Mark Kornmann, Greg Snyder, Cathy Batson, Elaine Durden-Hunter, Elody Huttner, Brian Scott

AGENDA

Opening Prayer

1. Song and Scripture

Rev. Dwayne opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:05pm and shared Mary J. Blige's song: "Mighty River".

Lilah will provide the scripture and Jim the song for the December Board meeting.

Rev. Dwayne also asked to add an informational item to the agenda (letter concerning the restructuring of the denomination) and said that he would like to discuss a legal matter in Executive Session).

Knut moved to receive the updated agenda and Bobbi seconded it. The motion passed.

2. Consent Calendar

- Tim moved to receive the consent calendar (Clerk's report and Senior Pastor's report) and Bobbi seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Informational Items

The Board and guests shared Shout-Outs for

- Greg Snyder and the team supporting the landscaping on November 4th
- Monika Lawrence who stepped in as an appointed Board member for John Merriwether's term
- The sound and AV team as well as Timothy Duncan for their support of TDOR
- Jackie Laughlin for pastoral care for a young lady hospitalized with breast cancer

M Street Lot Proposal Update:

- Following the Congregational meeting, Members of the Board and guests shared their perspectives on the Board plan to sell the M Street lot. The concerns from members of the congregation centered around the following issues/questions:
 - Legal issues such as approval of a potential sale by SunTrust – our 474 mortgage is based on the current use and size of the parcel of land;
 - Process – questions that members of the congregation have matter and need to be heard and addressed;

- Transparency – Congregants want to help but need to know the issues and might not be in a position to ask the right questions without detailed information;
- Parking – Concerns that MCCDC might lose more members if parking needs and concerns are not addressed; congregants expressed their support in helping to solve parking issues; Board clarified that a maximum of 8 parking spaces would be lost due to sale of M Street lot;
- Budget – ideas to separate the budget 2018 from the sale proposal and project spending only what we take in through offerings (other needs would have to be fundraised for);
- (organizational) Growth – idea to bring in outside consultant for organizational growth and putting strategic planning process on hold in the meantime; additional revenue streams will not be helpful if not paired with growth strategy;
- Trust fund – inclusion of such a provision in a potential sale as condition for support;
- Strategic choices – congregants said we have to put all options on the table; if building does not meet our current needs, even sale of 474 might need to be discussed; church needs to thrive and not just survive;
- Music ministry – congregants expressed strong support and said that music brought people in and kept them at MCCDC; choir is shrinking and members are tired;
- Leadership – ministries need dedicated leadership and planning cannot be done at last minute, especially when requesting support from ministry members;
- Engagement with congregation – idea and support for community meeting and inviting folks back who have left the church for a larger conversation around reasons for leaving and future of church;
- MCCs – proposal to reach out to local MCCs and exploring options for mergers.

Strategic Planning Update

- Rev. Dwayne will send the report from consultant Aimee Hill;
- Second phase of the strategic planning will be working groups who do diagnosis and analysis by late Jan/early Feb 2018

Letter of Concern regarding Denomination

- Rev. Dwayne reported from the meeting of the group that discussed MCCDC's response to the Denominational restructuring;
- A letter has been drafted and will be made available to MCCDC members, friends and leaders who will have the option to sign the letter;
- The letter will go out before the end of the year

4. Discussion/Voting Items:

Treasurer's Report

- Tim reported that expenses and income for 2017 are about balanced, though we will fall short of budget;
- Bobbi moved to receive the treasurer's report and Jim seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.
- Tim also answered questions around Jeffrey McGary's 2016 compilation report; the good news for 2016 is that MCCDC had a net revenue of \$13,262 before depreciation

Date for Board Orientation 2018

- Rev. Dwayne suggested as the date for Board orientation Saturday, December 9th from 9:30am to 1pm at MCCDC; most of the Board members will be available to join.

Board and Trustees Vacancies

- The Board thanked Monika Lawrence for her dedicated and faithful service on the Board of Directors and welcomed newly (re) elected Board members Jim Garner, Linda Hornsby and Bobbi Strang.
- Knut shared that Greg Snyder had expressed interest in serving for a limited time as a Trustee. Bobbi moved to appoint Greg Snyder to serve for a limited time as a Trustee of the Buchanan Memorial Building Fund Board and Linda seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Proposed date for Congregational Meeting

- The Board discussed the timing for the next Congregational meeting in light of the past meeting and the concerns raised by the congregation around the budget and the potential sale of the M Street lot.
- Jim shared that the Board met the responsibility of the Bylaws by presenting an annual budget for 2018 to the congregation. There was Board agreement that MCCDC can continue operating on the 2017 budget for a couple of weeks into the new year and that the congregation shall vote on this at the next Congregational Meeting.
- Tim Helm moved that we call a Congregational Meeting to be held on December 17, 2017, to ask the congregation to approve a short term continuation of the budget at 2017 levels through February 11, 2018. During this time, the Board will continue to communicate with the congregation on the proposed sale of the adjacent M Street lot and the proposed 2018 budget. Jim Garner seconded the motion. It was unanimously adopted.

Executive Session

- Lilah moved to enter Executive Session and Knut seconded. The motion carried.
- At 9:50 pm, Jim moved to get out of Executive Session and Tim seconded. The motion carried.

At the end of the meeting, Jim shared scripture from James 1: 1-4 that had been on his mind for the past days.

At 9:58 pm, Jim moved to adjourn and Bobbi seconded. Rev. Cathy closed the meeting in prayer.

5. Announcements/Events

- Thanksgiving Worship Service -- November 22 at 7 PM
- Decking the Halls -- November 25 at 10 AM
- Thanksgiving Dinner Church -- November 26 at 6 PM
- Christmas Concert -- December 2 at 5 PM

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