



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

October 16, 2018, 7PM

Moderator: Rev. Dwayne Johnson

Board Members present: Lilah Blackstone, Jim Garner, Linda Hornsby, Terri Neal, Knut Panknin, and Bobbi Strang.

Guests present: Rev. Cathy Alexander; Elody Huttner; Jules Christian; and Jason Carson Wilson

The meeting convened at 7:02 p.m. at MCCDC.

Opening Prayer

1. Song and Scripture

- Jim Garner shared the Scripture for the meeting, reading Ephesians 2:4-5.
- Rev. Dwayne Johnson opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. Approval of Agenda (Voting Item) – **Knut Panknin moved, and Linda Hornsby seconded a motion to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.**

3. Consent Calendar (Voting Item)

- Clerk's Report – no written report.
- Sr. Pastor's Report – written report sent to Board prior to the meeting.
- Trustees' Report – no written report. A grounds clean up event occurred on Saturday, October 13, 2018.

Terri Neal moved to receive the consent calendar, Bobbi Strang seconded, the motion was unanimously adopted.

4. Priority Board Items: (75 minutes)

- Drama Ministry Fundraising Proposal (Voting Item)

The Executive Team previously met with Jules Christian and discussed the request of the Drama Ministry to hold a dinner theatre fundraising event. **Knut made the following motion, which Linda seconded “Move to approve the Drama Ministry proposal for Dinner Theatre Fundraiser to be presented May 16-18, 2018. The net proceeds - 10% of which will be tithed to MCCDC's General Fund as per Board fundraiser policy - will support the needs and expenses of the MCCDC Drama Ministry.”**

The board had some further clarifying questions about the event. **Thereafter, the Board unanimously approved the motion.**

- Sale of Adjacent M Street Lot.

Knut provided an update on recent activities. Most notably, SunTrust, the holder of the Church's mortgage, has approved the subdivision of M Street Lot/plat. The subdivision plat is now with D.C.'s Office of Tax and Revenue for approval and assignment of new lot numbers, which is expected to take 2-3 weeks. The rezoning of 472 Ridge Street to allow the development of a third rental unit at that location is progressing. The hearing before the Board of Zoning Authority is scheduled for November 7, 2018. We are working to get some support letters signed by neighbors. Finally, Knut reported on the recent meeting with David Edwards of Heron Wealth to learn about Heron's products and investment strategies for investing the proceeds of the sale of the M Street Lot. The October 14, 2018 meeting was attended by Rev. Dwayne, Rev. Cathy Alexander, Knut, and Board treasurer Terri Neal. They each shared their observations about the meeting and Heron Wealth. Board representatives had previously met with Sun Trust's Trust Department to learn about their investment options. After the report, **Jim moved, and Linda seconded a motion to pursue an arrangement with David Edwards and Heron Wealth of New York to explore socially responsible investment options for the sale proceeds. The motion was unanimously approved.**

- Treasurer's Report & 2019 Budget Proposal (Voting Item).

Board Treasurer Terri Neal presented the Treasurer's Report, including the current balances for the Sun Trust and the Eagle Bank accounts. She also reported that our property insurer has paid an advance to cover some of the expense incurred in remediating water damage to the church's basement. Our deductible for this coverage is \$2500. **Knut moved to receive the Treasurer's Report. Linda seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.**

- 2019 MCCDC Budget Preparation.

The Board engaged in a thorough and lengthy discussion on the revenues and expenditures components of the new budget. The work built on the previous efforts started in the Budget Work Session held by members of the Board on October 2, 2018. Rev. Cathy also shared a draft narrative describing the budget, which links the budget to the aspirations in our strategic plan. After detailed review of and changes to the budget numbers and components, the Board instructed staff to continue working on finalizing a draft to share with the congregation at the next church chat on October 28th. Rev. Cathy asked the Board members to provide any additional comments and changes to the budget narrative and the budget numbers by COB Tuesday, October 23, 2018. Rev. Dwayne suggested having a one topic Board meeting after the church chat on October 28 to finalize the recommended budget to be presented at the Congregational Forum in November.

- Proceeds Advisory Team Follow Up.

Jim reported that he had not had an opportunity to pursue creation of this advisory group.

- Basement Update.

Rev. Cathy provided the Board with an update on the remediation efforts to address water damage to the Church's basement and interactions with our property insurance company and adjuster. A remediation company called Fireworks has completed its remediation clean up and demolition work at a costs. As mentioned earlier, the insurance company has provided an advance payment to cover the remediation costs. We have also obtained estimates for repair construction. Fireworks submitted an estimate of \$34,000 and Dennis Cruz has submitted an estimate of \$24,000 to do the work. The adjuster has determined that all the carpeting should be removed. We may look at installing tile instead of carpeting for

functional reasons. Rev. Cathy is looking for a partner to discuss reconstruction options. Jim offered to reach out to a Trustee for this purpose.

- Internship (Confirmation Vote).

Rev. Dwayne share his vision for having Rev. Jason Carson Wilson serve an internship as Minister of Liberation Formation. Rev. Carson Wilson is seeking the internship to achieve dual credentials with MCC and UCC. His portfolio would focus on social justice engagement for the MCCDC congregation. The internship would be for a period of September 1, 2018 through August 31, 2019 (retroactive start date). Rev. Carson Wilson addressed questions from the Board. **Bobbi moved to approve Rev. Johnson's appointment of Rev. Jason Carson Wilson to serve a one-year internship to retroactively start on September 1, 2018. Knut seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.**

- Strategic Plan Rollout Phase 2

Rev. Dwayne provided an update on the strategic plan roll out and plans for phase 2 on implementation. Sunday messages will continue to build on the aspirations identified in the strategic plan. On Saturday, November 3, 2018, 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Rev. Dwayne will host a meeting with church leadership to discuss moving from Disorientation to Reorientation and help identify the one big aspiration and the other top three to prioritize implementation of aspirations.

5. Shout-Outs.

The Board offered "shout outs" to **Rev. Cathy** for all her work during the past few weeks on dealing with the basement damage and the insurance claims process. Rev. Cathy also received a shout out for her work on budget preparations.

Greg Snyder received a shout out for his work in organizing and overseeing the fall grounds clean up last Saturday October 13, 2018.

Michael Davis, Sonia Grant, and Michael Cunningham received shout outs for their work in staying until midnight at church to support the rental of the building for a music event.

6. Executive Session on Upcoming Board Election Recruitment

Jim moved, and Knut seconded that the Board go into executive session to discuss board member recruitment. The motion was unanimously approved. The Board was in executive session for about 10 minutes. **Knut moved, and Terri seconded that the Board exit executive session and return to open session. The motion was approved.**

7. Change of next Board meeting Date.

Rev, Dwayne noted that the Transgender Day of Remembrance will be held at MCCDC on Tuesday, November 20, 2018, which is the regular date of our next meeting. In light of that and the interest of having another meeting prior to the Congregational Meeting on November 18, 2018, he suggested that the meeting be moved up a week. **Jim moved, and Linda seconded that the next Board meeting be moved and be held on Tuesday, November 13, 2018, at 7 p.m. The motion was approved.** Rev. Dwayne reminded everyone that the new Church Chat will be October 28, 2018 after each service and will be focused on the budget.

Adjournment/Closing Prayer

Lilah moved to adjourn the meeting and Knut seconded the motion. It was approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:37 p.m. Rev. Dwayne closed the meeting with a prayer.