



SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

June 27, 2021, 12:30PM via ZOOM

I. Call to Order

The special Congregational Meeting of Metropolitan Community Church of Washington DC (MCCDC) was called to order at 12:32 p.m. by the Rev. Elder Dwayne Johnson, MCCDC Moderator. Due to the Coronavirus Disease-19 pandemic, the meeting was conducted virtually over the Zoom platform. Rev. Dwayne reported a quorum of church members in good standing had signed in and were present at the meeting exceeding the 10 percent of total members (161) required by the Bylaws. A total of 17 members were present at the start of the meeting and the number peaked at 20 during the meeting. Rev. Dwayne alerted participants that the meeting was recorded, and he thanked everyone for attending and participating today and at the Congregational Forum on June 20th, 2021. Rev. Dwayne shared that up to three individuals will be permitted to speak in favor of any motion and three will be permitted to speak in opposition to any motion.

II. Opening Prayer

Rev. Dwayne opened the meeting with a prayer.

III. Highlights

Vice-Moderator Knut Panknin shared some highlights and key accomplishments since the November 2020 Meeting:

- Infrastructure: The Board started taking care of long-standing infrastructure needs, such as replacing the failing and irreparable HVAC system and initiating the flat roof repair;
- MCCDC hired an outstanding Church Administrator: Melvin Moore Adams who helps us implement/coordinate projects and has been a tremendous support;
- The Board established an "MCCDC COVID-Advisory Team" that made recommendations for a return to in-person services, approved by the Board. -some things that went well:
- Thanks to the leadership of Treasurer Terri Neal, MCCDC successfully applied for PPP loans in 2020 and 2021 in the total amount of \$85,394. The first loan has been forgiven already and we apply for forgiveness also for the 2nd PPP loan which means we received grants for the church.
- We have seen creative and continued ministry engagement virtually: from Bible study to B90, Eclectic Praise, Prayer Calls and the OAM.
- Thanks to the leadership of Johanna Hardy and the Board as well as volunteers, we have continually improved our livestream services.
- The Board approved a plan moving forward with investments in digital infrastructure and capability, hired an outside contractor for expertise and help with implementation. This upgrade is also an investment in church engagement and growth.

IV. Approval of Budget for 2021

The Board's Treasurer, Terri Neal, presented the highlights from the Treasurer's report to the congregation with accompanying slides. At the conclusion of her presentation, Rev. Dwayne shared the following motion on behalf of the Board: **"The Board of Directors moves for the Congregation to approve the 2021 budget."**

Rev. Dwayne invited the congregation to speak in favor and/or opposition to the motion. Phil Helbling spoke in favor and Brian Scott asked about questions around the budget that had come up during the Forum.

Rev. Dwayne then asked for a vote by a show of hands of those in favor, those in opposition, and those abstaining. The motion and therefore the 2021 budget was approved by a show of hands vote with 19 votes in support, one vote in opposition and no abstention.

Brian Scott asked after the vote what the new per capita giving would be based on the approved budget. The required giving per member per week in order to make budget would be about \$45.

Rev. Dwayne then introduced the second motion on behalf of the Board: **The Board of Directors moves that the Congregation approve \$175,000 to be used from the Far Reaching Faith Trust Fund to cover financial initiatives for infrastructure projects and for physical and digital infrastructure items identified in the 2021 budget.**

Treasurer Terri Neal addressed a question around investments returns that had come up during the Congregational Forum. She shared that the FRFTF value was currently above the original investment in 2018. She had also contacted MCCDC's investment manager David Edwards who spoke to her and Rev. Cathy. David later followed up in writing. If the congregation approved the Board motion and \$175,000 was taken out of the FRFTF (not as a lump sum but 50% in 2021 and the rest in 2022 as needed), MDDC could keep a draw rate of 5% on the remaining \$600,000 in the account which would come to 30k annually or \$2,500 per month.

Rev. Dwayne invited the congregation to speak in favor and/or opposition to the motion. Dale Madyun-Baskerville spoke in favor.

As there was no other congregant wishing to speak, Rev. Dwayne then asked for a vote by a show of hands of those in favor, those in opposition, and those abstaining. The motion was approved by a show of hands vote with 19 votes in support, one vote in abstention and no vote expressing opposition.

Dale Madyun-Baskerville moved and Craig Arnold seconded that the Congregational Meeting be adjourned. The motion was unanimously approved by a showing of hands and the meeting was adjourned at 12:52 pm. Rev. Cathy Alexander offered the closing prayer.