



## Church Council Meeting

May 22, 2023

### Minutes

Brooke Messer welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming.

Joe Stobaugh opened the meeting with a prayer. For Spiritual Formation, he read about Pentecost in Acts 2, which describes a true Christian community. The passage included an invitation to life abundant and demonstrates God's goodness to everyone. We are empowered and inspired by the Holy Spirit.

Lary Hooten reported for PPRC that we are moving forward in preparation for Beth's departure. Hopefully, her eventual replacement will start in August or September. He said PPRC is in the process of writing a Recognition Policy for non-ministerial staff. Emma announced that the third of the three interviews for the Director of Communications position has occurred and that an offer may be extended by the end of May.

Diane Brooks reported for the Lay Leaders and thanked all PPRC members, especially Emma, Meredith and Jillian for their contributions to the Recognition Policy. Jillian reported that we have sixty registrants so far for VBS. She asked everyone to look for weekly emails regarding donations for our four main mission partners. Volunteers and snacks are needed.

In the absence of Joe Brannon and Constance Harp, Brooke reported that not all the finance numbers are in because of vacations. But contributions here to date are higher than last year. Asks to fill the budget are ongoing. She said Finance would like to push the capital campaign to late first quarter or spring of 2024. The Youth Center will be completed by then for a tangible funding event, mobilizing our newly renovated space.

In his Trustees report, Lee Wiley said the pricing for the Youth Area is based on drawings from McCaslin Hill and engineering options without affecting overall scope. Construction should start early to mid June with the completion goal by the end of the year. The permits have been approved.

Dub Newman reported the HVAC should be done with engineering management system. The temperatures have settled down from seventy degrees to seventy-three or seventy-four degrees with variation. Management has been shifted to Sean. Rickey is still working on the locks and we need to simplify our calendars.

Thomas Wainscott reported that DipCon is the provider for the locking services. Another firm has been asked to provide another proposal. We expect a report on recommendations next week from the consultant on security for some things like cameras. Repairs will be made to the newer elevator, but we have engaged with a company for reviews and bids for the older elevator. It does not meet ADA compliance and may cost one hundred thousand to repair. It is not a priority right now. We are working with the WDS on several projects: license to continue, fence around the Caruth playground, city approval to put walking and bike tract on Colgate lawn, gutters, door jams and drainage issues. A bid from McCaslin Hill was \$47,000 to \$48,000 to repair the playground fence and \$8,000 for columns. These are the WDS property needs to be addressed in order to encourage families to continue enrolling their children.

Dub reported we had a fire alarm failure, code red, and we are working with our current provider to have it remedied. The system is in the old part of the building and needs to be replaced. Some more challenging needs include the sanctuary where there is no water suppression system, smoke alarms are necessary, and new controllers and wiring replaced tied into new control box. The DSS quote is \$110,000 and would take nine months to complete. Another bid from Convergent is \$130,000 with completion in four months. The WDS work needs to be done over the summer. Two computer servers went down costing four thousand each. Trustees needs the Council's authorization to proceed. Brooke asked if there were any objections to the Trustees moving forward and there were none.

In his Pastor's Report, Joe shared that meetings with the WDS have been positive. The choir retreat to a Methodist church in San Antonio was fruitful. When Joe was on staff there, one of the youth then is now on the staff of the 175 year old church! Ezri has been accepted to Perkins! He will start in the fall on scholarship. Place to Call Home series is being well received by the congregation. Our church had two tables at the Thanks-giving Foundation lunch. Confirmation Sunday is this Sunday. The Essential Wisdom lessons will be categorized for classes to use. Mission Ministries has been engaged. Staff members attended Rough Rider's Day. PC Clergy and mayor and city council members asked how we can make some legislative progress from Mental Health Sunday. Sean and Otis are doing great. In the fall, we will start a monthly alternative service. Emma is doing a great job with interviews for vacant positions. Joe expressed concern about security issues when he said, "The Shepherd wants to be sure are are all safe at church, but we also want to practice good hospitality."

Brooke asked if there were any questions about the reports and there were none. She said the Church Council will not meet in person in June or July, but we may have a zoom meeting, if necessary. The next meeting will be August 28.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Brooks