

Congregational Board Meeting – May 9, 2017

Attending – Leeann Blundell, Lynn Cockle, Betsy Wilson, Steve Bough, Esther Giffin, Cindy Irey, Erin Parkinson, Hannah Fenley, Bill Watson, J.J. Jones, Deb Plucknett, Kathy McDandel, Jennifer Parker, Scott Glasrud, and Courtney Sullivan.

Not Attending – Sally Nielsen, Travis Wymore, Jim Wells, Jeff Gibbs, Karen Carlson-Cook, Amy Rose, and Nancy Lear.

Opening

Leeann Blundell called the meeting to order. Esther Giffin provided an opening prayer.

Approval of April Meeting Minutes

Ms. Blundell asked the board if there were any changes to the April meeting minutes. It was noted that J.J. Jones was missing from the roles and that he had not attended April's meeting. With that correction in mind, there was a motion, which was seconded, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Finance Committee Report

First, Lynn Cockle presented results of the recent church auction and dinner. She reported that the event resulted a \$53,000 net gain for the church.

Next, Ms. Cockle discussed the proposed budget for the 2017-2018 fiscal year alongside the actuals from 2016-2017. Administration was projecting a larger budget due to several large technology projects. Personnel costs were reported under-budget due to current staff vacancies for the 2016-2017 fiscal year, but are expected to be higher in the future as positions become filled and insurance continues to increase in cost. Several accounts were noted as under budget, but are expected to have expenses before year-end. Discussion followed. Ms. Cockle then briefly reviewed the quarterly financials with the board.

The board can expect to vote on the complete budget at the upcoming June board meeting.

Update from the Northeast Task Force

Tom Thornton summarized the history and the goals of the Northeast Task Force for the board. Specifically, the church has been working with the following organizations in that neighborhood: Della Lamb, Micah Ministries, Grace United, Jerusalem Farms, and Sheffield Place. Then, Mr. Thornton outlined a proposal, which is included on page three. The proposed action would permit the church to hire a part-time employee who would coordinate ministries and help facilitate the use of funds that have already been raised as a part of the last capital campaign. It was explained that the position would be a three-year hire. Discussion followed. Mr. Thornton asked the board to approve the proposal. There was a motion, which was seconded and unanimously approved.

Personnel Committee Report

The board entered executive session to discuss personnel decisions. After extensive discussion, the board exited executive session. The Board voted to call Dr. Mike Graves to the church's ministerial staff in a part-time capacity as Scholar in Residence.

Nominating Committee Leadership Slate

Scott Glasrud reviewed the leadership slate presented by the nominating committee for the 2017-2018 year. Mr. Glasrud made note of an increased number of deacons and a decreased number of elders in this slate to address ongoing service issues. There was a motion, which was seconded, and the board unanimously approved the slate. The list of nominees will be presented to the congregation in June for final ratification.

Calendar Reminders to the Board

Leeann Blundell reminded the board that a congregational meeting will take place on June 4th, and the next meeting of the board will be June 13th. Ms. Blundell also noted that there is a change in schedule for the board retreat to September 16th. The date for Festival Sunday is September 10th. The senior minister installation for Carla Aday will be take place on September 24th; there will be one service at 10:30am on that day.

Closing

Citing no further business, Ms. Blundell called the meeting to a close and led the board in a departing prayer.

Northeast Capital Funding Program

In April of 2011 the Capital Campaign Steering Committee, composed of 59 Church leaders and staff, set aside \$300,000 for the “Hands-On Outreach Project”. A task force appointed by the board studied options and recommended the focus of the project be Northeast Kansas City.

In 2012, the Congregational Board passed the following motion: “...to accept the Northeast Outreach Initiative as the initial focus of a long-term effort and that the Church and its support will focus on initiating projects in the Northeast community of Kansas City.”

Since that time five agencies have been identified and “Champions” have been selected to manage the volunteer efforts and activities at these agencies.

It is now time to move forward with the funding. After reviewing the Capital Campaign goals and the strategic imperatives that came out of the Mission Possible committee, the Outreach and Mission Coordinating Team has developed the following plan to move forward.

- 1.) Hire a part time staff person (25 hours per week) July 1, 2017 with three primary goals—
 - a.) be a face and name in the Northeast and spend the first three months meeting with Northeast stakeholders, agencies, area political figures and other appropriate organizations and individuals gathering information on how CCCC can make the most meaningful impact.
 - b.) Build on existing relationships and partnerships that have been established both before and after the Capital Campaign and coordinate our volunteer presence with those agencies. There are five agencies at this time.
 - c.) Increase CCCC member’s volunteer presence in the Northeast and help coordinate those volunteer activities.

The investment will be in the two areas prioritized by the Outreach and Mission Coordinating Team and those are empowering children to learn and moving people from poverty to self-sufficiency which could include food and medical programs, job training, learning English, finding appropriate shelter and researching other unmet needs that could be included.

The staff person will vet the spending priorities developed and grant recipients through a panel of Northeast leaders (business, political, residential) that they will develop from the ground work they do in the initial stages.

The staff person will be challenged to create an “identity” for CCCC in the Northeast community as a partner who is making a real difference the lives of Northeast residents and a partner that is getting positive things done. A further goal is to strengthen the partnerships we have developed but also learn what else is there (unmet needs) and how we can make a stronger, broader impact both with money and volunteers.

Subject to the findings of the staff person the thinking is that this will be viewed as a three year program beginning July1, 2017 with \$100,000 available each year. One third of that will be salary and benefits for the staff person with two thirds left each year for funding. The remaining two-thirds of the funding will be deployed at the direction of the Outreach and Mission Coordinating Team. The staff person will vet all spending proposals through the Northeast Leaders panel and the Northeast Partnership Team prior to submitting them to the Outreach and Mission Coordinating Team.