

Country Club Christian Church
Congregational Board Minutes
August 8, 2023

Attending: Jennifer Austenfeld, E.J. Becker, Kathy Buckley, Liz Copeland, Justin Cottrell, Sara Engber, Dana Flora, James Guthrey, J.J. Jones, Phil Klever, Becky McElduff, Glenn Mills, Jennifer Parker, Beckie Rogers

Not Attending: Erin Feitz

Guests: Amy Guthrey, Dan Jensen, Mary McClure

Staff: Tulley Beard, Rev. Bryce Bowers

Call to Order

J.J. Jones called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Mr. Jones gave the opening meditation based on a remark he heard at the municipal swearing in, “You become where your thoughts dwell.” He gave the opening prayer.

Building Committee Update

On behalf of the Centennial Campaign leadership, Mary McClure updated the Board on the status of the renovations and their financing. The Building Committee is meeting the expectation to come back to the Board as part of the overall construction plan approved in November 2022. The renovations are currently on time and on budget. To date, the expected funding gap is at the low end of the approved estimate. Moreover, the estimated expense for adding projects that were eliminated from the current renovations is less than forecast last November. The Building Committee recommends a continuation of the fundraising campaign to add finishing touches without increasing bank financing.

Dan Jensen said he is very pleased the progress of the general contractor, A.L. Huber. Overall they are on schedule for the child care center updates and other projects underway. There were no major issues in the dig and demolition phases. The proposal targets adding \$1.320 million to include social and commercial kitchens, social hall audio/visual improvements, restroom updates and other touch-ups inside and out, building immediately on the end of the first phase construction. The additional campaign would include \$55,000 in interest and also covers the funding gap of \$980,000 for Phase 1, which includes the remaining current construction costs and \$500,000 for the Kansas City Northeast mission partnership. Amy Guthrey explained the proposal would not increase or affect current financing.

Ms. McClure walked through estimated expenses of the additional projects in the recommendation, the significant remaining contingency funding built into the existing phase, the approved gap between commitments and planned expense, amounting to \$2.3 million in

new fundraising. She said the finishing touches like those included in a new phase of renovations can have the biggest impact on congregational life and introduce new and unanticipated uses for the space.

The Board unanimously approved the recommendation of the Building Committee to continue the fundraising campaign for an additional \$3.2 million.

Consent Agenda

The Board reviewed the June and July dashboards, which showed a fiscal year-end of about \$5,000 net revenue. The Board unanimously approved a motion to approve the consent agenda including the June 13th Congregational Board Minutes.

Executive Minister Report

Rev. Bryce Bowers provided additional information on the dashboards, summer activities and upcoming plans for fall and transitioning back into the sanctuary for weekly worship.

Personnel Committee Report

Sara Engber reported a search committee is formed for a new Youth Director position, which can be part-time and not ordained. These changes from Rev. Heston's position provide more flexibility to fit the top candidate and move responsibilities not related to the youth to other clergy. Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn is managing the hiring for a new child care center director.

New Business

Kathy Buckley provided an update in her role as Elder Chair. September 17th is the first elder-deacon gathering, on a Sunday during youth group time and possibly with child care. Goals are engagement, hospitality and service. On November 14th, there will be elder-deacon neighborhood mixers. The annual retreat is scheduled for February 10th, with Dr. Andrew Root from Luther Seminary and focusing on youth ministry.

Closing Prayer

Rev. Bowers offered the closing prayer. The meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.