

Good Shepherd United Methodist Church
Leadership Board Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2023

In Attendance: Anne Britt, Renee Delgado, Andy Elmes, John Fuller, Dawn Heldmann, Kim Ivey, Lisa McGehee, Sam Rajaratnam, Sonny Rea, Bryson Smith, Bob Stephens

Opening Remarks

Anne Britt welcomed everyone and reviewed GSUMC's Mission and Vision statements.

Spiritual Formation

Anne opened the meeting by reading a devotion from Dr. Lee from the District Dispatch.

Leadership Development

- Recruiting new leaders
 - Anne stated that there will soon be announcements to the congregation about open leadership positions. The announcement will be sent Feb. 27.
- Teaching
 - Lisa gave a brief discussion about stewardship. She reviewed a sample Generosity/Stewardship Calendar for 2023 that she and Bryson plan to incorporate.

Membership

- Update on Realm
 - This is the new membership database. Lisa reported that they are still working on the conversion from the old database. It will roll out to staff first, then the congregation - hopefully by April.

Generative & Strategic Work

- Community Needs Assessment
 - About 60 organizations were asked to complete the survey. The results summary was distributed and reviewed.
 - Community Needs Assessment was sent to 60 people and organizations in the Glen Allen, Chamberlayne, and Greater Richmond Area. We received 14 responses for Glen Allen, 4 for the Greater Richmond Area, and 0 for Chamberlayne.
 - The needs are broad and systemic and call for community partnerships. Needs were broken down into categories: Education, Employment, Health/Health Services, Housing, and Transportation. The team divided the recommendations into Advocacy, Community Partnerships, and Good

Shepherd lead categories. For instance, the community partners identify that ESL courses for parents is a need. The Community Needs Assessment team recommends Good Shepherd convene a conversation with schools, other churches offering ESL, the YMCA, ReEstablish Richmond, etc., to review what is being offered and what the community gaps are in adult ESL and to develop a community plan.

- The next step is to develop task groups for each area of need.
- Discussion of CHUMC campus
 - Open Table - No news yet about the funding from Anthem.
 - Bryson met with Henrico County about the property. The option for collaboration was communicated.
 - Bryson also met with the Pastor of Ginter Park Baptist Church and shared about our proposed Open Table project. She would be interested in collaborating.
 - Sonny asked about “Dinner Church” at CHUMC. This is still in the early planning stages. He recently learned that their gas stove has not been used since before COVID, so it will need to be serviced before it can be used.
 - Lisa mentioned that a small group needs to be formed to make decisions about cleaning out the building and what may need painting.
 - Sonny had a home inspection conducted on the red brick house. It is in pretty good shape.
 - John asked if the District has made any formal statement about whether this property will actually become Good Shepherd’s property long-term, and not become the property of the District. Bryson does not have any written assurance about this, but Dr. Lee has expressed support for our plans for the property. John recommends we do not spend large amounts of money on the property until we know for sure.
- Youth and Children’s Ministry Audit
 - Bryson reviewed the audit results, which were distributed to the Board. Some of their recommendations are for things we are already doing. We will begin working on the youth minister job descriptions now.
 - Anne pointed out that an ongoing challenge is finding enough adult volunteers. Renee is working to establish a Family Ministries Team, as recommended.
 - Bryson is meeting Renee, Linette and Mark to review the audit.
- Worship Audit
 - Lisa reported that a worship audit would be taking place.

Financial Update

- Andy reviewed the Treasurer's report and noted that we received \$109,000 in December. At the end of November, we were very under budget and having concerns, but this income brought our deficit closer to the black (-\$11,600).
- Andy recommends we form a Scholarship Committee to review the two Endowment Scholarship Funds brought by CHUMC. Historically, scholarships have been awarded over the summer. This money (\$132,24.48) is restricted, and not able to be used for anything else.
- Restricted accounts have not had much change.
- 2023 Proposed Budget Review by Andy
 - Projecting \$590,000 in general fund donations, a little lower than last year's actual amount.
 - We are not budgeting for special donations.
 - The income budget includes \$45,000 in support of Indian Church (\$20,000 in 2023 and \$25,000 in 2024) which will be withdrawn from legacy CHUMC funds.
 - Projecting \$625,000 in total income (about \$30,000 less than 2022).
 - Youth Discipleship expenses reduced. It is usually easy to get extra donations when needed.
 - Children's Discipleship is increased. Renee will be introducing a new curriculum for children called "Godly Play." This plus supplies for G4 are the reason for increased expenses.
 - Increased expense for Conference Delegates, increased clergy equals increased laity.
 - Staff Compensation expenses will increase by about \$25,000. Includes additional staff and 4% pay raises.
 - Bottom Line: -\$111,738.00
- Financial Report/2023 Budget Discussion
 - Anne feels there are many income opportunities in the works that we couldn't put into the budget (ex: Open Table). Though we're starting with a deficit budget, she feels confident that we will see some new income.
 - Andy stated that there is \$160,000 in a restricted fund from CHUMC that could be available to us if needed.
 - Sonny recommends we create a larger building maintenance savings fund, as we are bound to have expenses owning two older buildings.
- **MOTION:** Sonny made a motion to approve the budget as presented. Andy raised concerns about approving the budget with such a large deficit projected. He will approve as long as we go into this with "eyes wide open" and are willing to use some of the money we have in reserves if needed. Andy seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved, and the budget was passed.
- Anne asked us all to give a thank you to Carol Walker for preparing these very detailed reports.

- Andy and Lisa will begin working on a communication plan to discuss this budget with the congregation.
- Sonny shared that the Men's Group is buying a new freezer for the GSUMC kitchen. He would also like to talk to the Men's Group about paying for the new "God's Play" curriculum.

Next Meeting

February 28th at 6:30. We will try to stay on the 4th Tuesday of the month moving forward.

January 22nd District Zoom Training

Anne or Lisa can provide details to anyone interested in attending.

Closing Prayer

Anne closed the meeting with a prayer.