

Date: Sunday, November 16, 2014

Members Present:

Chris Buice
Cindy Moffett
Grier Novinger
John Mashburn
Jon Coffee
Kate Benson
Kathy Bohstedt
Lance McCold
Linda Randolph
Marco Castaneda
Mary Jo Holden
Maureen McBride

Members Absent:

Alan Moore
Laurie Knox

Guests:

Barbara Taylor
Kim Mason
Morgan Wilson

1. Opening Words

Linda called the meeting to order at 12:45 PM. Kathy gave opening words. Some items were addressed out of this order.

2. Minutes

Minutes for the October board meeting were approved as corrected by the Secretary.

3. Additions to agenda

Board members meet with new members, a goal for 2014-15: Kathy volunteered to write up a proposal for how and how often board members will meet with new members (as a welcome and to get to know them). Grier and Lance said they were willing to meet with new members.

4. Budget Report

Maureen presented the attached budget report. 36% of the year's contributions are in at 33% of the fiscal year. The financial committee is working on the FY 2014-15 budget; in light of recent years when income fell short of what was pledged, they are planning for that shortfall.

The requested expenses for 2015-16 are \$644,111; the projected income is \$603,692. To cover the \$40,419 difference, Heather and Maureen brainstormed a list of possible cuts for the board to consider. Linda requested more information about several items so the board can begin considering cuts next month. (In the meantime, board members can send thoughts about cutting various line items directly to Maureen via Basecamp. Linda will set up a new project folder for this.) This budget balancing process will take several months of thought and exploration. The congregation will vote on the budget in the spring, at the congregational meeting.

5. Stewardship Committee Report

Report attached. Celebration Sunday is Feb. 22. Chairs Ken Kitchen and Jodie Hamilton asked for support from board members, so the following volunteered.

- Find people to give testimonials: Cindy
- 3 skilled volunteers to personally contact congregants who request it: suggested John Bohstedt, Joe Touchton, & Frony Ward
- Ask groups to talk up Celebration Sunday: Kim or Morgan for RE, Linda for Small Group Ministry, Kathy for Personal Beliefs
- Large donor party: Cindy
- Ushers on Celebration Sunday: Grier, Linda, Kathy
- Help with brunch service: Lance, Mary Jo, Maureen, John, Grier

- Make calls for the Fellowship Phone Bank: John, Kate, Linda, Lance

6. Executive Team Report

Report attached. Splitting the administrative assistant's time between admin and RE has been piloted for several months and will be assessed soon. Chris also emphasized that we are in a new relationship with our building as it ages; deferred maintenance will no longer be a possibility.

7. Jon Coffee Minister Classification

The Board voted unanimously to license Jon as a "recognized" minister, a state of Tennessee classification, which allows him to perform weddings.

8. Visioning Process

Lance reported that the visioning committee has received many very interesting ideas as they've solicited input through various channels. Groups have been interested and engaged and he encouraged others on the board to go out and meet with groups as well. Gathering input will end on Dec. 1; then the visioning team will organize the information they've collected. Lance encouraged all board members to contribute to the vision. The link for discussions is www.goo.gl/qbkl3X

9. Update on Director of Administration position

The position has been posted and Heather and Chris are working on a plan for how to cover the needs until the position is filled. The search committee is Linda, John, Ann Whitney, and Joe Viglione; Grier will chair.

10. Board Auction Item

Grier volunteered to coordinate the board members' contributions to the Ruth Martin Game Night, an auction event for up to 30 people on Saturday, Feb. 28, at the church. Mary Jo will make the potato cheese soup and Grier will make the chili. Others will provide bread, dessert, beer, wine, soft drinks and iced tea. The games include Boggle, Scrabble, Dictionary, Charades, and possibly Scattergories.

11. Auction update and proposal

Auction chair Linda reported that plans for the Dec. 6 auction are humming along smoothly. Jodie Hamilton suggested auctioning a prime parking space for the year; after discussion, the board agreed that it should be Jan 1 - Jan 1, \$200 starting bid, and it should be the first "blue curb space." Maureen noted that all fund-raising requests are to go to the Finance Committee.

12. Unfilled positions on committees

Linda asked for ideas for a program council rising chair and a nominating committee member. People are to send suggestions to her. Several agreed that finding a PC rising chair might be better assigned to the nominating committee, as was the case a few years ago.

13. Fellowship Meals

Cindy volunteered to lead another meal and Chris agreed to help. It will be April 1. John Montgomery and Susan Fuhr are auctioning themselves as cleanup crew, so we will bid on that at the auction.

14. Workshops

Beloved Conversations, a train-the-congregational-trainer workshop taught by Mark Hicks, is Jan 23-24. If you're interested, let Chris know.

On Dec. 8 (or 7? as in 11-19 newsletter), Chris, Kim and Gordon Gibson will give a presentation on Mosaic Makers and hopefully recruit more participants for Beloved Conversations. These efforts support our goal of becoming a more multiracial and multicultural congregation.

The Compassionate Communication Workshop is Jan 30-31. It helps train people in right relations - how to go into tense situations and heal. We've done such work for the listserv in the past, and this workshop will provide training for a future Right Relations Committee to support best behaviors and policies and to help all members understand compassionate communication. We hope to create groups to move forward.

15. Closing words

Kathy offered the closing words and the meeting adjourned about 3 PM.

Next meeting: Sunday, Dec. 14, 12:45 PM. (Date changed from the usual third Sunday to the second Sunday because of the holidays.) Jon will provide the opening and closing words.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Moffett, Secretary
Sunday, November 16, 2014