

Minutes of BOD Meeting of TCUUC: May3, 2016, 1:30 PM

1. Board President Susan Hemmer called the meeting to order.

In attendance:

Susan Hemmer – President  
Bill Falk – Vice President  
Dixie Gray – Treasurer  
Ray Burdett – Secretary  
Lin Olson – Member at Large  
Linda Irvin – Member at Large  
Bob MacDonald – Minister  
David Gray – Liaison for new building construction  
Bruce Olson – Co-chair of Ministerial Search Committee

2. Previous Meeting Minutes:

- Minutes of March meeting – approved
- Minutes of April meeting - approved

3. Minister's Report: Bob MacDonald

- Bob stated that he wished to offer the cellist, Jackie Robbins, a sum of \$100 for playing at Sunday services, not to exceed once per month. A discussion of the merits of paying this amount was held. The Treasurer assured the Board that this amount of money was available in the music portion of the budget and that we had been paying up to \$150 per month in the past for guest musicians at the Sunday services. Bill Falk moved that we offer to pay Jackie Robbins \$100/month for a once per month musical performance at Sunday services, with the duration to be flexible. The motion was seconded and passed with 4 affirmative votes and 1 abstaining.

4. Minister Search Report: Bruce Olson reporting

- The committee consists of Bruce, Barney, Jim Rickson, Jon Page and Lin Olson; Bruce and Barney are co-chairs
- Three individuals have expressed an interest, but one has recently withdrawn.
- The committee is having a conference call with one of the candidates, Paul Johnson of Long Island Shelter Rock church, who has expressed an interest in a ½ time position. They will discuss with him his ideas on what ½ time means to him.
- Another candidate is in the US Navy, and is looking to serve as a minister for a congregation for one year in order to qualify as a Navy Chaplain. The Board did not think this avenue should be pursued, as we are looking for a longer-term minister.
- The Board has mandated the position to be ¾ time, and we discussed whether or not we had budgeted enough money for this position. Other options for paying for a minister may be explored if necessary.

5. Treasurer's Report: Dixie Gray

- Dixie emphasized that all committees report to the Finance Committee, which determines the budget for each committee
- The budget for music includes both the music director's salary and money for musical performances at Sunday services

6. Audio-Visual Committee: Bruce Olson reporting (members: Bruce, Tom Hayworth, Vice Hall, David Gray (ex-officio))
  - Committee met with 2 groups to get quotes
  - The AV plan calls for a big screen behind the speaker or perhaps 2 screens, one on either side of the speaker. The Board discussed the merits of having an option for a speaker to use the floor level to speak from rather than the raised platform. This was due to the difficulty some of members have in ascending steps. David Gray mentioned that the raised speaker platform is part of the building plan and cannot be changed at this time.
  - A projector would be mounted on the ceiling for display onto the screens.
  - A control station for light, sound, and projection will be available, and may be able to be controlled by an app from an electronic tablet (ipad).
  - A camera for recording services, etc. is planned
  - The new building will be pre-wired for the capability of adding additional features later.
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7. Building Report: David Gray
  - The building may be ready in September, two months in advance
  - Paul Johnson will be making decisions on the décor of the new building this week.
  - The Donors are in control regarding details of the building until it is in possession of TCUUC.
  - An unanticipated cost of \$1780 was added to the overall cost of the building to move the mayor water supply line so that it is not buried in the slab and unavailable for repair if needed.
  - We saved \$3000 on our contract with American Landscape and Lawn for lawn, landscape, and sprinkler system maintenance because they were chosen as the sub-contractor for landscaping and the sprinkler system rerouting on the building project
8. Thinking Big
  - We discussed how to proceed with a Grand Opening/Dedication of our new building, given that it may be completed in September, prior to the return of many members from the North. Possibilities discussed included:
    - i. Waiting until November to have the Grand Opening/Dedication
    - ii. Having two different events: one in September or whenever the building is ready and one in November when our congregation is at full strength. This earlier preliminary opening would be to “strike quickly” to inform the community of our new building, and to thank the donors, some of whom are in poor health, at as early a date as possible.
  - Bob MacDonald suggested that David Craig’s picture be on display in the Narthex to honor his contribution. Bob will show us an example of a possible plaque at the next meeting
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  - Other items discussed included
    - i. Soliciting a legacy donation for the musical programming of the congregation
    - ii. Selling pavers/bricks with names for the patio. The cost of the bricks is approximately \$60-70 to produce.
    - iii. Silent auction
    - iv. Donations for naming of rooms/items in the church building or grounds
  - The Board is to brainstorm such possible naming opportunities for discussion at the next meeting

9. Church Secretary: Caitlynne reporting.

- Corinna Pelsoni will finish building our website to our specifications and tutor Caitlynne on the administration of the site. She would also remain available for technical support for a small retainer. The Board authorized \$250 for a block of 10 hours of time.
- The church will soon be using One Note for organization of all correspondence, including meeting meetings. All documents would then be available on line.
- Caitlynne also reported that she was elected as the Social Responsibility Committee representative to the Treasure Coast Food Bank.
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10. Membership:

- It was emphasized that, even though we have a Membership Committee, every member of the congregation is an unofficial member of this committee and is responsible for recruitment of new members
- A process for reaching out to new attendees at our services is needed

11. Messages/Banners

- Consensus was that the congregational meeting on May 1 was successful, with individuals speaking and listening respectfully. Most speakers were in favor of the display of the “Black Lives Matter” banner. The process for displaying a message representing the church was presented; committees are free to suggest a message to the Board, and the Board then must approve the message and the means of display. The Board also would determine on an ongoing basis the length of time that the message would be displayed.
- David Gray sent Ray Burdett a link to the Code on Signs in Stuart. Ray will familiarize himself with this code and report to the Board.

12. Children’s Religious Education: Lin Olson

- Lin asked for a “vote of confidence from the Board” concerning RE, and the Board asked her to please continue with the development of an RE program and to form a committee to help her with this.
- Dixie told her to write a charter for an RE Committee and present it to the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee would then vote on approval and a budget for the RE Committee.

13. New Business

- Vi is proposing to present a leadership workshop for individuals in positions of responsibility in the Church and also to help prepare others into positions of responsibility. The funds will come from the Social Responsibility Committee. The Board was in favor, and it was determined that this workshop should be done soon (June) and then perhaps again in the fall when more members are in town.
- Lin Olson and Linda Irvin asked that the meetings start at 1:00 since they have obligations on Tuesdays in the afternoon.
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14. . The meeting was adjournment was at 4:00 PM. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, June 7, at 1:00 PM (unless otherwise changed by the President of the Board).

Submitted by Ray Burdett, Secretary of the Board