

Park United Methodist Church
Church Council Minutes
August 21, 2017

Members Present: Twila Ehrich-Belton, Sandy Beyer, Carol Tower, Kerry Beebee, Brock Reynolds, Roxi Grimsley, Bob Weston, Tom Yeager, Jamie Lee, Kathi Hefti, Pastor Justin Halbersma

Members Absent: Scott Gutierrez, Jon Weston, and Joseph Sparks

Guests: n/a

Agenda: Stood as presented.

Meeting to Order: 6:30 p.m. Twila called the Council to order. Pastor began the meeting with prayer.

Personal Celebrations and Prayers – Each person shared a personal celebration, which included vacation time, Vacation Bible School, returning to school, time spent with family, fair booth, and a new home.

Stewardship Campaign – The Stewardship Campaign Team was created following last month’s Council meeting. Members of this team are: Sandy Beyer, Roxi Grimsley, Luke Weber, Ashley or Craig Franke, Janie Weston, and Scott Bachman. Sandy shared that the team will meet soon to begin preparing for the campaign for this fall. Pastor Justin is planning to have a sermon series during the month of October that will coincide with the campaign.

Capital Campaign – A Capital Campaign Task Force needs to be created. Twila noted this is a longer timeframe commitment than the Stewardship Team. The timing of this campaign needs to be done so as not to conflict with the Stewardship Campaign, but there needs to be a connection between the two campaigns.

The Council discussed what the focus of the campaign should be. The Task Force will define this more clearly, but the purpose is to have funds available to be able to maintain the church’s physical assets (church building and grounds, garage, and parsonage). The items listed in the asset audit that was completed as part of the HCI process will provide good guidance for items needing repair/renovation/removal.

Information will need to be shared several weeks in advance of rolling out the campaign. Tom suggested beginning the educational portion in January, but the official rollout tentatively scheduled for April

An article in the e-mail blast (a “Leak of the Week”) was suggested to introduce the campaign to the congregation. Roxi asked for clarification if this was strictly a monetary campaign or is there

an opportunity for individuals to donate via their talents; i.e., volunteering. Justin said this was more monetary, but volunteering could be incorporated.

The goal for the campaign was briefly discussed. Justin said the council may need to look at a 5- to 10-year plan for the facilities prior to the rollout of the campaign. A RACI chart for the Capital Campaign was created.

Trustees' Report – Bob shared that the church's van needs to be replaced; it is no longer safe to drive nor carry passengers. Currently, drivers are using their own vehicles to transport people to church events. A discussion was held about replacing the van. The Trustees could follow through on the Council's decision. It was decided to no longer have the van in the garage, put it up for sale, and, if it doesn't sell, make arrangements for salvage.

The storage facility contains items from New Light – a baptismal font, an altar, a convection oven, a commercial dishwasher, padded chairs, church papers, and many other items. Bob may have a buyer for the convection oven and dishwasher. Tom said there are items in the Park garage that could be sold as well. Kathi said there are items in the "dungeon" at Park that need to be gone through.

Pastor Justin suggested we set a timeline of evaluation and disposal of items. A "possession audit team" needs to be created. Kathi suggested team members include representatives from the Fair Booth Team, Education Team, UMW, and the Men's Group. Bob suggested we follow the route we followed during the HCI process of decluttering the narthex and entryway. Tom suggested two to three people make the decisions and then share a list of what is set to be discarded.

Pastor Justin suggested a "spring clean-up" timeframe. Tom suggested we bring items from the storage unit and put them in the Park garage. Justin said we need to communicate this information to the congregation. Bob will write an announcement for the e-mail blast.

The Building and Grounds is operational; however, more communication needs to be done so individuals are aware which team member to contact for specific items. Further communication will be done via the e-mail blast.

Second Service Update – In the last e-mail blast, Pastor Justin outlined the vision for the second service. He provided further information on the service's format. Starting in September through March, services will be once a month. Beginning April 1 (Easter Sunday), services will become weekly. The Launch Team continues to work on plans for the launch of the second service. We are still in need of a Worship Leader for the second service. We do have an individual for the September service.

Tom expressed concern of launching a second service in light of the HCI recommendation of not having a second service until average weekly attendance is at 150. We were at this level, but have dropped back. Twila and Justin provided the reasoning of moving forward at this time.

SPRC – As was noted earlier, we are still in need a Worship Leader for the second service. Pastor Justin reported that Josh Greer accepted the position of Director of Discipleship and Mission, with a start date of mid-October. Justin will begin with some of the initial small group leader training until Josh arrives. Twila asked the Council to take a few minutes to write words of welcome to Josh and Jenny. She would like these within the next two weeks.

Justin would like to have “meet and greets” – similar to what he experienced when he first came to Park. He suggested that each Council member host a “meet and greet” session with Josh. It would be ideal to have one Council member be there acting as the “host” and another Council member be there to help facilitate any discussion. Each Council member is to let Justin know how many people they could host and possible dates.

Report Review – The only report that was submitted was the Treasurer’s Report. It was noted that while are currently in a positive financial situation, this includes revenue from the New Light rental property. Without that revenue, we would not be in this comfortable financial. Also, having a staff position vacant for a period of time has meant lower expenses.

Going forward, Pastor Justin would like to review the employee benefit package for staff.

Bob shared that the remodeling of the New Light building has occurred and there will be open house at the facility. The information on the open house will be shared with the congregation. Twila encouraged all Council members to attend.

Jamie Lee distributed the Annual Conference Missional Report.

The District Superintendent will be here for her annual “check-in” meeting with Pastor Justin and the Council. The meeting is scheduled for October 21, at 2:00 p.m. at the church.

Justin closed the meeting with prayer.

Meeting Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Carol Tower, Recording Secretary.