Leadership Council Minutes

5-23-22

Members Present: Rick Allison, Anne Atzinger, Valerie Blessing, Phil Brewer, Jeff Buck, Kathy Heistand, Phil Howard, Mark Rich, John Thompson, Melissa Truelove, Mike Womack, and Jeff Wright

Special Guests: Dr. Karen Hetrick and Andrew Hamilton

1. John Thompson opened the meeting with prayer.
2. Ministry Spotlight: Worship Ministry (Dr. Karen Hetrick and Andrew Hamilton)
    - The vision of the Worship Ministry is "To lead God's people in the worship of God with purpose and excellence."
    - The Worship Ministry is made up of the Chancel Choir, Handbell Choir, Praise Team, Orchestra, Tech Team, Scripture Readers, and Communion Stewards.
    - The Praise Team currently has five members, but growth is welcomed. This team functions like a family and supports each other.
    - The Chancel and Handbell Choirs do a great job of supporting and caring for one another.
    - Karen Hetrick shared some challenges and obstacles facing the Worship Ministry such as reluctance of persons who could participate to do so, aging of the Chancel Choir members, politics of the denomination, difficulties of the pandemic and the resulting diverse coping strategies of the church, limited resources regarding pianists, and lack of children, youth and younger adults who have pursued music studies.
    - Karen Hetrick and Andrew Hamilton are not directly involved with worship at the Trafalgar Campus. Trafalgar has a limited number of people who serve in the Worship Ministry and commitment and life issues create challenges.
    - Mark Rich proposed a question "do we need a plan for a permanent worship space at the Stones Crossing Campus".
3. Pastor Report
    - Pastor Jeff shared that Pastor Travis Taylor has accepted a position in St. Petersburg, Florida and his last Sunday at Mt. Auburn will be June 26.
    - Pastor Jeff's report shared highlights for the month of May including Mother's Day, Preschool Graduation, Graduation Sunday, The Men's Ministry Retreat, and many new visitors. He asked for prayers for our church for all that is ahead.
4. Finance Update—April
    a. April Financials
        - The Stones Crossing Campus had a net income of $21,600.
        - The Trafalgar Campus had a net income of $410
        - The Daycare had a net income of $13,000.

- Overall Year-to-Date we are $16,000 better than predicted.
- A total of $90,056 has been spent from Daycare Grant #1. Mike Womack shared his concern that 25% of each grant must be spent on labor, not 25% of the total of the two grants.
- Anne Atzinger expressed concern that the natural gas budget has almost reached its maximum for the year.
- Jeff Wright learned that if we decide to take a lump sum disbursement for the Cell Tower Lease, it can take 6-8 weeks to receive the money. He also learned that the offer submitted is not official until it is presented to AT&T. Kathy Heistand has agreed to seek an appraiser to evaluate the value of the Cell Tower Lease.

b. Sweep Account
- Mark Rich, Brenda Reynolds and Jeff Wright met with Shannon at Citizens Bank to discuss sweep accounts.
- The recommendation is to transfer all our bank accounts to Citizens Bank and when any account goes over $250,000 they will electronically move money into other banks. This is a behind the scenes process so the statements will still match our reports.
- The cost for the transfers is $.25 per transfer or a maximum of $5.50 per month.
- A motion was made by Phil Howard to authorize Brenda Reynolds and Jeff Wright to utilize the bank sweep account at Citizens Bank. Kathy Heistand seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

5. Audit Policy and Schedule
- The auditor has not yet completed the report and apologizes for the delay.
- Jeff Wright recommends another audit next year since this was the first audit for Trafalgar, and then reevaluating the following year.

6. UMC Task Force Update
- The Task Force led by Phil Howard has begun to meet and has a total of four scheduled meetings.
- The members of the Task Force are Phil Howard, John Thompson, Jeff Wright, Valerie Blessing, Mike Womack, Phil Brewer, Kim Peters, Susan Porter, Marge Patton, Jerry Mc Roberts, Bill Moyer, Mark Appleton, Jeff Buck and Don Cline.
- The 6 purposes of the Task Force are to evaluate and address activities and plans associated with disaffiliation, establish proposed action steps, establish a proposed timeline, develop a communication plan and implementation strategy, assist the church staff with church documentation, and recommend to Leadership Council next steps for the congregation.
- The Task Force plans to send monthly communications to the congregation including a FAQ sheet.

7. Nominations for Open Leadership Council Roles

- The Nominations Committee will meet on 5-26-22 and will submit names to vote on at the June Leadership Council meeting.