

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Governance Board Meeting Minutes
March 19, 2018 7:00pm

Governance Board members (BOLD indicates attendance at meeting):

Rev. Craig LaSuer – Lead Pastor	Emalee Havel – Chair, Rep for Youth, SPRC co-chair
Jim Beaty – At Large Member	Karen Hull – Secretary
Open – Finance	Open – Church Treasurer
Don Caddy – UMM, Trustees SPRC co-chair	Taylor Owings – Rep. of Young Adults
Nick Clinkenbeard – At Large Member	Chip Rutledge – At Large Member
Open – UMW and Lay Leader	Ronda Kroeschen – Church Administrator (non-voting)

Others in attendance: Jan Beaty, Shari Bittles, Rev. Billy Bross, Ann Caddy, Rev. Denny Frank, Rich Frank, Jane Frankenberger, Dorothea Goold, Gus Gustafson, Sally Gustafson, Larry Huggins, Lola Huggins, Sarah Kelly, Joy LaSuer, Karen Logan, Susie Loughner, Cary Mitchell, Letty Mitchell, Rev. Lana Robyne, Diane Stott, Bill Walker, Mary Welch, Ellen Wilson

Opening

Emalee Havel, Chairperson, opened the meeting at 7:03pm

Opening Prayer offered by Emalee Havel

Teaching and Spiritual Formation Portion of Meeting

Honoring our sister in Christ, Nola Gentry – sharing of memories and lighting of candles

Devotions offered by Rev. Craig LaSuer

Discussion of Chapter 1 of The Switch by Heath and Heath.

Reading assignment for May 2018 is Chapters 2-4 “Directing the Rider”

Progress Toward Goals Portion of Meeting

Mission and Vision Initiatives Update offered by Rev. Craig LaSuer

Klondike –

Klondike Kids Club is moving forward with 15-21 students each day. We are planning to add 4th and 5th grade next year. Hayden Hicks, Harrison HS math teacher is the new site supervisor.

Spiritual Development –

Judy Grimmer will be leading adult spiritual development for spring, summer, and fall

Shari Bittles has a new ministry of intergenerational events. First one was game night. Susie Loughner and John Jones are on the team.

Purdue University through Wesley Foundation –

The open house in January went well.

JoAnn Bross's memorial will be used for a gas fireplace.

Pastor Lana is just back from a Wesley-Baptist Foundation justice and missions mission trip. It was inspiring and they are thankful for use of the bus.

Core Values in Action-

Diane Stott has reminded us about historical UMC missions like Africa U.

There is a time and talents survey that is available online. All are asked to complete it.

Reports and Decisions Portion of Meeting

Approval of the minutes from January 2018 Governance Board meeting

MOTION to approve made by Chip Rutledge. **Motion seconded** by Nick Clinkenbeard.

Motion approved.

Everyone Means Everyone congregational survey proposal

Jane Frankenberger presented on behalf of Debbie Givan and the class.

She reminded all present that the GB had approved the formation of their task force in March 2017 to explore increased LGBTQ+ inclusiveness at FUMC.

Jane asked for feedback on a survey to assess congregational support for a welcoming statement and alignment with Reconciling Ministries. The survey is on the website.

The class was praised for their process. Feedback was received on the survey, and thoughts were shared.

Emalee Havel summarized the discussion. The board blesses the survey and suggests an April timeframe to allow people to complete the time and talents survey first.

Outdoor fellowship space/ nature learning center proposal

Letty Mitchell shared a 2 page written proposal for creating an outdoor nature learning center on FUMC property. The proposal is on the website. It would benefit mental wellness for children and all ages.

The Board thanked Letty Mitchell and blessed her continued efforts to secure funding for the project.

Governance Board processes/purpose update offered by Emalee Havel

Robin Bellinger, Finance chair, has resigned from the board. The board thanks her for her service. Bill Walker is assisting on an interim basis. The board is very thankful.

Don Caddy and Emalee Havel are interim SPRC co-chairs.

Don Caddy is leading nominating committee along with Rev. Craig LaSuer.

There are three openings and several roles: Trustees, Finance, Treasurer, Lay Leader, UMW

Pastor Craig and Don will bring a nominating committee together. Interested people may contact Don Caddy. The openings will be advertised for 60 days.

Jim Beaty is going to help us address communication gaps.

Rev. Bross' SPRC amendment motion is on hold per the interim District Superintendent, Rev. Michelle Cobb.

Emalee Havel gave a reminder of the purpose of the Governance Board and how it operates.

The purpose for moving to the GB model is to be more fruitful, more missional, and more outwardly focused. Eliminating committees was to free people for ministry and the model puts more power in the hands of the congregation for starting new ministries.

The Governance Board is the rudder on the ship, and keeps us pointing at the mission. It is not the engine room.

The GB is the SPRC and all of those meetings are confidential.

Emalee invited us to pray for our church, the mission, and the GB.

Missions update

Emalee Havel, Rev. Lana Robyne, and Diane Stott met about missions funding in the new GB model. Diane requests more direction. The next step is for Diane to meet with Pastor Craig and Ronda Kroeschen.

Finance

The Finance portion of the meeting began at 8:48 pm

Bill Walker shared a 2017 year end update.

Income: \$732,000

Expenses: \$727,000

Income exceeded expenses by \$5,000

Budget was \$744,000.

Bill stated that from his perspective the finances of the church are in good order. This is not based on an audit, but on his observations and the information he receives from Patty and Theresa in the finance office.

The proposed operating plan for 2018 is \$757,000. Bill expects income to be similar to 2017. The operating plan is higher than he would typically be comfortable with.

MOTION

To accept the 2018 operating plan of \$757,000

MOTION to approve made by Chip Rutledge. **Motion seconded** by Nick Clinkenbeard.

Motion approved.

SPRC

Emalee Havel began the SPRC update portion of the meeting at 8:53 pm

Nola Gentry was an amazing SPRC chair and she will be hard to replace.
Emalee Havel and Don Caddy are serving as interim SPRC co-chairs.

They affirmed Ronda K. for her work in hiring and training new financial secretary.
The DS delayed the vote on Rev. Bross's motion, but Don Caddy will move forward with some of the ideas and is seeking an SPR advisory support team to do staff recognition, job descriptions, and update personnel manual.

The SPRC has met with District Superintendents on three occasions as part of pastoral appointment process. DS Chris Newman-Jacobs began a medical leave shortly after we met with her. The conference is aware of the opportunity around the appointment; the profile is complete and is in the hands of the cabinet. We can be praying for the cabinet and the new pastor.

Trustees

Don Caddy, Trustees chair began the Trustees portion of the meeting at 8:58 pm

New lights and controls will be installed in AC the week of March 26

Working on new lights for CLC

Foundation is matching light donations through May.

We are trying to build a fund for maintenance.

There will be new trees planted, a gift from Bob and Millie Troyer family

We have switched phone provider to Uplink and internet to Wintek. Dropped Comcast for both.

Trustee meeting ended at 9:02pm

Other Discussion

May 20 is the annual foundation meeting

Reception on March 25 at 12:10 to honor Pastor Lee, new UMC pastor of Korean DC

Closing

Closing Prayer offered by Jim Beaty

Meeting Adjourned by Emalee Havel at 9:06pm

Reminders

Next Governance Board Meeting, Monday May 21, 2018 at 7pm

Respectfully submitted,
Karen E. Hull, Secretary