

Governing Board Minutes

August 21, 2018 – **APPROVED 9/18/18**

The guest director, DeAnn McCue was unable to attend the meeting.

Greg Carstensen had the devotion, “Solomon’s Wise Request.”

Call to Order

President Scott Strachan called the meeting to order at 6:29 p.m. Board members Anne Sheeley, Craig Grundmeier, Jennifer Jaschen, Kurt Kromminga, Brian Frantum, Martha Raecker, Greg Carstensen and Ruth Ebke were in attendance. Also present were Senior Pastor Joe Meyer and Executive Director Chris Thomson.

Welcome Martha Raecker

After a brief introduction by each of the current board members, Martha Raecker was welcomed as a new board member.

Consent Agent and Minutes

With one correction on change of adjournment time to 9 p.m. instead of 7 p.m., Anne Sheeley made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Jennifer Jaschen seconded. Motion passed.

Reports

Senior Pastor Joe Meyer’s report:

- a. The person being considered as a sign language helper for one of the services is busy with a new job but is still on Pastor’s radar. 95% of the deaf are unchurched so the need is there.
- b. Three congregational surveys have currently gone out. The first had 300 respond, the second had 275 and there are no numbers on the third yet. Once they are all turned in, Pastor would like to gather the Directors with the Governing Board for discussion and planning and strategy formulation.
- c. The first sermon series in the “Head” segment of “Head-Heart-Hands” will be a critical questions/answers series to begin in September. The titles will be published ahead of time so members can invite friends to those of interest to them.
- d. Promotional wristbands will be handed out as part of the launch of “Head-Heart-Hands.” They will have this printed on them as well as “I Love Jesus.”
- e. Journaling bibles will be on sale beginning the first week in September with arrival time in October.
- f. The appointment of Elders and as to whether they are really needed was discussed. In most large churches with a policy based model they don’t have elders. Pastor recommended that the Board of Elders be pulled out of the current constitution and approved by the congregation. By-laws will need to be edited to present at the annual congregational

meeting. Pastor would like to see women as worship assistants and will wait for results of the surveys. More detailed discussion will follow next month.

Executive Director Chris Thomson's report:

- a. Giving in June was 4% greater than last June and July was up 3%. We had a good 2-3 month trend.
- b. The server was compromised earlier in the summer. To prevent this from happening again we need to get rid of the server and move all files to OneDrive and the Office 365 platform with cloud backup. We may look at ACS to be the IT support and have this in place by 2019. Chris will present the expenses for this after the first of the year.
- c. Safeguard Iowa has been busy, they have had budget issues plus flood and tornado damage issues. They did bring a comprehensive report and threat analysis that Chris will edit and customize and take to the security team to determine new security procedures and plan implementation policies. He hopes to have new plans in place by early-to-mid October.
- d. CHP health plan premiums will be going up 4%. They may possibly be going up even more the following year. Chris may be looking at the possibility of a different health plan within Concordia.

Financials report by Brian Frantum:

- a. The mortgage has been paid down to \$565,000. After making the last payment we are back to where we started in terms of overall cash position.
- b. Financials continue to look good. Offerings are up \$70,000 over last year.

Attendance report by Chris Thomson:

- a. Total attendance in June and July was down slightly from last year.

Current Discussion and/Action Items

- a. There was a short discussion on the call to Jenn Fuller for the position of Children's Ministry Director. She has her Masters and is currently at Messiah in Johnston. Jennifer Jaschen made a motion to extend a call to Jenn Fuller for the position of Children's Ministry Director at Gloria Dei. Anne Sheeley seconded. Motion passed.
- b. A financial control review will be done on a periodic basis when needed. It was done last year.
- c. A date will be set in October for the leadership retreat. The board felt that Friday evening and Saturday morning would be needed to cover all that needed to be done. Chris will look at the weekends in October and set up the choices for us to select from. This may also be in place of our October board meeting.
- d. Anne presented the idea of purchasing a van with the church's name on it to be used by the youth or seniors who needed transportation. Pastor felt that drivers and maintenance might be issues to be considered. This was tabled for now.

- e. Monitoring Affirmation and Board education, “7 Ways to Share the Gospel Without Being a Jerk.”

Housekeeping

- a. The next Board meeting is September 18th.
- b. Kurt Kromminga will have the devotion.

Adjournment

The Board meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m. followed by the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Ruth Ebke