

Castleton United Methodist Church
Leadership Team Meeting Minutes
December 6, 2016

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Paul Bickle. Pastor Bert Kite opened in prayer.

Team members present: Larry Burch, Carole Craig, Paul Bickle, Jerry Robinson, Roy Byerly, Dorian Poole, Deb McCloud, Margo Ward, Tom Schubert, and Kim Paulus-Tauriainen. Wayne Derr, Pastor Bert Kite, Pastor Billy Nickrand, and Treasurer David Ayers were present.

Solar Panel Discussion/Trustee Update (Tom Schubert)

Tom Schubert indicated that he was comfortable with the background of and the solar panel installation work completed by the PEG Energy Group for other large customers. Tom is going to call IPL to continue his due diligence. Tom also will contact the law firm of Bose, McKinney, and Evans. A solar panel project for Englewood Church on 10th Street was mentioned as one of its projects. There is some question about ability of CUMC to sell excess electricity back to IPL at the price indicated in the original projections because the equipment is owned by a third party. This needs to be determined. Due diligence on Alliance Energy Financial needs to be completed because of their involvement with the financing of the project. Alliance puts together investor packages.

Three reports on the solar panel project required from the prior meeting:

- (1) Tom Schubert has contacted legal counsel as noted and indicated that the agreement should be changed to a “no lien” contract. There is need for a letter of credit. Presently, the agreement is a two-way contract and a three-way contract is needed.
- (2) David Ayers reported that our mortgagee bank has no objection to the solar panel project.
- (3) Pastor Bert Kite stated that a charge conference was not needed to enter into the agreement because it did not represent 25% of the value of the property.

Discussion followed. Deb McCloud asked for more information relating to the cash flow for the first year so we could get a better feel for the numbers. The need for a performance contract was discussed. It is noted that we have an additional agreement with Flex Green for the installation of the LED fixtures. Tom noted that the rebate from IPL for LED fixtures is \$40,000. Kim asked if we need more liability insurance and Tom indicated that our present level of coverage is sufficient.

Larry Burch was assigned the duty to report back to the leadership team next meeting on the standing of Alliance Energy Financial with the Office of the Secretary of State. Tom Schubert indicated that support by the leadership team was needed to continue in negotiations with all parties.

It was moved and seconded that we “pursue the solar panel project with Alliance Energy Financial, PSG Energy Group, and the LED lighting.”

Motion was approved. This motion does not constitute authority to sign any contracts. Apprising the congregation of the status of the project will be done when we have more answers.

Financial Update and Extravagant Giving(Deb McCloud)

Receipts remain short of goal. Receipts for Castleton as of November 27 are 87.9% of goal. Receipts through November 27 total \$1,518,534. Goal is \$1,728,000. We are \$209,466 below goal. The level of giving is \$109,673 behind for the same period in 2015. Staff continues to manage the level of expenses.

Deb McCloud presented the finalized Consolidated Budget for 2017. This includes CUMC and Still Waters Adult Day Care. Highlights include total income of \$1,821,823 and outflows of \$1,819,557. Cash flow is \$2,266 positive. Assumptions include no staffing changes/increases in number. There is a 2.3% merit increase for staff on anniversary date. This budget calls for a level of giving of \$33,800 per week. Actual giving through October 2016 was \$30,775 per week. We have a stretch goal of giving to meet the budget. The budget includes approximately \$700,000 in contributions expected to be received but not pledged. David Ayers indicated that historically this is at least \$500,000. Costs were discussed. Bert Kite indicated that the over-time law does not apply to the ministerial staff. There is also an injunction keeping the over-time law from being implemented. We believe that there are three applicable persons per the definitions under the over-time regulations.

Pledges received to date are 196 which total \$1,024,347. This is a little less than the same time last year for pledging, but the number of pledges is 21 higher than last year.

There was a motion and a second to accept the 2017 budget as presented. Motion passed.

Miscellaneous

SHARE Ministry (Lawrence Township) is in long-term planning for 2017. It will be utilizing our payroll system and this will not be a burden to our resources.

Dorian Poole reported that food for the staff of CUMC and CUMNS will be provided December 19.

MAD will perform on December 9 and 10.

Nominations – Lay Leadership Committee Report for 2017 was provided by Pastor Bert Kite. The entire report is included in these minutes. New Leadership Team Members for the class of 2019 include Joyce Poole and James Hinshaw. Pastor Bert also provided a statistical profile of the church and discussed areas that need to be addressed including

declining attendance in Sunday School, seeing children in worship, and the possibility of revisiting the Sunday morning worship schedule.

Pastor Bert Kite closed the meeting with prayer.

Being no further business, meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting is Tuesday, January 17, 2017 @ 6:30 pm.

Secretary: Jerry Robinson