

Castleton United Methodist Church  
Leadership Team Meeting Minutes  
May 17, 2016

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm. Roy Byerly opened the meeting with prayer.

Team members present: Larry Burch, Roy Byerly, Carole Craig, Paul Bickle, Jerry Robinson, Deb McCloud, Tom Schubert, Dorian Poole, Kim Paulus-Tauriainen, Margo Ward, and Pastor Billy Nickrand. Pastor Frank Beard was attending General Conference and not able to attend.

Minutes

Minutes of the Leadership Team meeting of April 19, 2016 were approved.

Trustees (Tom Schubert)

Toddler playgrounds used by CUMNS are not compliant with NAEYC requirements and updates are needed to maintain accreditation. In the April meeting, the Leadership Team approved an additional \$16,000 above 2015 budget to improve one playground including installation of a fenced 45' X 45' playground area on the east side of the Armstrong Wing, near the dumpster area with three-walled, brick veneer finished barrier around the dumpsters to improve the aesthetics of the area. There is \$20,000 already in the 2015 budget for improvements.

Tom presented an updated plan with total cost of \$63,944 to address both CUMNS playgrounds over two budget periods (2015-16 and 2016-17). There is \$90,000 in the CUMNS savings account to cover the expenditure. Tom asked for approval of an additional expenditure of \$27,944 above the \$20,000 already in the budget, and the \$16,000 approved in April. Tom indicated that the \$63,944 expenditure would take place over two fiscal budgets because CUMNS uses the school year for budgeting purposes rather than a calendar year. He explained that there would be considerable savings if CUMNS were allowed to update both playgrounds at the same time. Saving is approximately \$15,519 if both areas are addressed in one plan. Discussion followed.

There was a motion to approve the expenditure of \$63,944 and seconded. This motion was tabled to allow Deb McCloud to present combined financial data of CUMNS, CUMC, and Still Waters. The motion was approved to allow the expenditure after Deb's presentation.

Kitchen of Family Life Center kitchen has had the back-splash installed.

Financial Update and Extravagant Generosity (Deb McCloud)

Receipts for Castleton as of May 8, 2016 are 95.7% of goal. Receipts are \$654,505. Goal is \$684,000. Deb noted that CUMC was under goal for receipts through May 8 and that receipts are significantly below the pace set in 2015. We are \$131,429 behind the

level of giving for the same period in 2015. Deb did indicate that one large contributor had made their full pledge by this time in 2015 and is expected to complete their pledge later in 2016. Completion of this pledge in 2016 would lower the deficit comparison to 2015 levels.

Combined CUMC year-to-date income statements through March 31, 2016 were presented. Adjusted Operating Net Income for the CUMC, CUMNS, and Still Waters showed a loss of \$13,605. The church is behind in generating net income showing a deficit of \$86,619, while CUMNS and Still Waters show positive net income of \$66,398 and \$6,616, respectively.

Discussion followed on how to increase giving and to highlight the importance of our various ministries. It was noted that church giving is down, not just for CUMC, but many other churches. Support of the CUMNS ministry was stated. CUMNS is part of the outward facing circle of believers that we are called to be. Investment in CUMNS is needed to support this important ministry of the church. Importance of CUMNS might be presented in a video during church services. Other ministries could also be highlighted in a video format. Dorian noted that the NAEYC accreditation is a great accomplishment. Billy stated that CUMNS does have staff shortage, and there is pressure on the remaining teachers because of staffing levels. Dorian proposed a listing of substitute teachers who previously worked in the field of education that might be called on to help. Deb indicated that showing appreciation to the CUMNS staff would be a wonderful and any ideas could be forwarded to Dorian.

Church expenses are going to be reviewed by Frank, Wayne, Deb, and David Ayers (Treasurer) to see if we can find up to \$50,000 in the budget that could be saved.

June 19 is Father's Day and will be designated as "Catch Up Sunday" and "Ketchup Sunday". Church members will be encouraged to increase their giving to catch up on our budget and also bring can goods and other food items to aid a local food pantry.

In light of our vision statement, our faith, the blessing that CUMNS is for the community, their teachers, and for the future, Deb indicated that we should approve the \$63,944 expenditure for the playgrounds. As noted above in the Trustee comments, the motion carried.

#### 10 Point Coalition (Paul)

Rev. Charles Harrison made a presentation at CMC discussing the effectiveness of the 10 Point Coalition in addressing and decreasing gun violence in three Indianapolis neighborhoods (near north and near west from downtown) including Butler and Tarkington areas. His comments moved some members of our leadership team to ask for a discussion on how CUMC might support the effort. Discussion followed. Coalition is a positive influence in the neighborhood, using some ex-offenders on the streets as advocates from 10pm to 1am. Coalition efforts emphasize getting to know people and understand their issues.

Efforts including not putting up barriers and getting change from providing the love of Christ. Training is needed for the advocates and jobs should be located for the youth. There is a need for the services on the east side of Indianapolis in the area of 34<sup>th</sup> and Keystone. Margo noted that mentoring is needed at the Juvenile Detention Center where her husband, John Ward, is a volunteer.

Pastor Billy indicated that he would reach out to Rev. Harrison, meet with him, and provide a list of possible ways that members of CUMC might support the efforts of 10 Point Coalition. Pastor Billy noted the need for mentoring in the local schools.

Pastor Billy

Billie noted that the last CMC for this session would be covering his trip to the Holy Land.

October 16 will be a GO Weekend and the congregation will be able to go out into the community and do service. A packing party for a food pantry is planned.

Meeting closed in prayer by Larry Burch.

Being no further business, meeting was adjourned.  
Next meeting is Tuesday, June 14, 2016 @ 6:30 pm.  
Secretary: Jerry Robinson

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