

Castleton United Methodist Church
Leadership Team Meeting Minutes
May 23, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Paul Bickle and opened in prayer by Joyce Poole at 6:30 P.M.

Team members present: Paul Bickle, Kim Paulus-Tauriainen, Roy Byerly, Ron Miller, Tom Schubert, Deb McCloud, Larry Burch, and James Hinshaw. Carole Craig was absent. Both Pastor Bert Kite and Pastor William Nickrand were present as well as CUMC Treasurer David Ayers.

Eagle Scout Project Proposal

Robert Duncan and his mother, Rachel, were at the meeting to explain Robert's Eagle Scout project and to seek approval thereof. Robert is with the CUMC troop and attends Carmel High School.

Of the three options previously provided by Tom Schubert, Robert chose the most difficult but one that will be a great benefit to Stillwaters.

The project entails building a concrete patio near Door 3 of the Ministries Center (approximately 20 feet by 8 feet), installing a metal fence around the majority of the perimeter of the patio, and potentially placing benches on the patio. The patio will be used as a waiting area for SW guests or for a place to enjoy the outdoors on nicer days. The current estimate provided by Robert is \$1300; he will be responsible for any fundraising necessary for the project.

Concerns were raised regarding the weather, church calendar, and placement of the dirt removed for construction of the patio. James Gettz will identify a location for the removed dirt.

Stillwaters has already approved the project.

Joyce Poole moved for approval of the project, Roy Byerly seconded the motion, the motion to approve the project passed unanimously.

Financial Update

Currently, CUMC is receiving (on average) approximately \$1,000 below the weekly goal; or approximately \$29,000 year to date less than 2016 year to date

The net cash position is a positive of approximately \$38,000 and when depreciation is included, CUMC is in a positive position of approximately \$5,000

As for Restricted Funds, the receipts are currently greater than the expenses since the Faith Promise receipts are included

Stillwaters was expected to have a loss due to the opening of the branch at Eastgate; however, Stillwaters is breaking even with a tiny surplus

CUMNS is in good shape; CUMC is also in decent shape with the inclusion of CUMNS and SW

Questions were raised about a need for mid-year changes to the budget and whether to examine the cyclical nature of the giving. As for mid-year changes, we will need to monitor and manage expenses. Giving is very cyclical, the end of the 2nd Quarter and the beginning of the 3rd are generally the lowest while about 15% of the annual giving may be received in December alone.

Project Funds – are there any funds that could be used to cover specific projects rather than using the general operating fund? This will need to be examined.

Concern about total equity – the total equity should be a positive number. Currently, the total equity at CUMC is a negative of approximately \$50,000. While concerning, that number is much better than it has been in the past.

Life Insurance – there are still a few policies in effect, any proceeds realized from those policies will still be used to pay Note C; if Note C is not paid off, it disappears at the end of 10 years

Special Leadership Team Session

A need was seen for a special session to essentially brainstorm how to grow the church

Pastor Bert – remember the mission to make disciples for the transformation of the world; we need to ask how we can help potential members to become disciples and not just treat them as consumers

Deb – how can we show that the CUMNS families are loved

Roy – what about examining what occurred when many CUMNS families were part of CUMC
The special session is scheduled for June 17th from 9 AM until Noon (location TBA); James and Joyce will meet with Yvette before that date

Trustees Update

Nothing further has been done with the solar panel issue

Server Room – A/C died, have received several quotes for a complete install

Air Handling Units in the classrooms – given the cost of replacement, Tom is researching whether the condensate trays can be rebuilt rather than replaced

New windows – \$5,000 was budgeted, but the actual cost was below budget at \$3,000

Restrooms in the youth area of the Ministries Center – problems with the landscaping have caused issues with the brick leading to a need to remodel the restrooms; the ivy on the building is also causing brick issues and may lead to further problems down the line, so the ivy will need to be removed

Deb stated that some funds (mainly memorials) might be used to cover the cost of some of the Trustees needed items

If anyone knows of students that could assist around the CUMC Campus, please let Tom know

Staff Parish Update

Jackie Chandler is retiring, her last Sunday is 6/11/2017 and she will be preaching that day; plans are for a reception during the 10:00 hour probably in the Legacy Room

Small Group Model

Wanted a Wesleyan model akin to the house meetings that were used

This would be a replacement for Castleton Midweek Connections (CMC)

The groups would become more involved in the community at large, as one element is the service done once every four to six weeks

The current Sunday School classes will not be affected by the change

August 13th is scheduled to be the launch date for Children's Ministry, Phao, and Adult Small Groups

An initial date for the group formation has yet to be determined

Miscellaneous

Roy – Service Times – a person who has just recently started attending mentioned that he/she did not feel welcome at CUMC; Roy thought that perhaps the issue is that everyone is rushing out of the 1st service to get to Sunday School so no one stayed in the Narthex to visit and welcome; Pastor Bert is planning to take a wait and see approach and probably stay at 2 services

Tom – Ushers – people were having a difficult time finding seats, so the usher should be directing people to the open seats; perhaps there is a need for usher training

Fish Fry – this is probably Tony Miller’s last year as head of the Fish Fry; if one is thinking about taking over the lead at the Fish Fry, this would be a great year to learn under Tony’s leadership

Pastor William – God sighting in the 7 baptisms on Confirmation Sunday; lots of momentum heading into next year

There will be no June meeting due to scheduling issues and the special session, thus the next Leadership Team meeting is July 11, 2017, at 6:30 P.M. in the Ministries Center

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberly Paulus-Tauriainen