

Castleton United Methodist Church
Leadership Team Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2017

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

Team members present: Kim Paulus Tauriainen (Kim PT), Paul Bickle, Joyce Poole, Roy Byerly, Larry Burch, Ron Miller, Tom Schubert, Deb McCloud, and Carole Craig. Pastors Bert Kite and Billy Nickrand were also present.

After being called to order, everyone introduced themselves and their respective roles on the Leadership Team. Paul Bickle remains as Chair of the Leadership Team, Tom Schubert as Chair of Trustees, and Deb McCloud as Chair of Finance. Ron Miller is the new Chair of Staff Parish Relations (SPRC).

Since new members of the Leadership Team were present, Paul Bickle led a discussion and review of the Leadership Team, its duties, and the expectations of the Leadership Team, as previously outlined by now Bishop Frank Beard, in December of 2014.

Minutes

The November minutes, with the necessary corrections and changes, had been sent electronically to the Leadership Team for review prior to the meeting. Deb McCloud moved for approval, Larry Burch seconded, and the November minutes were approved.

A discussion ensued as to whether to publish the minutes after electronic approval of the minutes. After determining that there were no issues to do so, the Leadership Team plans to have the minutes published after electronic approval is given.

Trustees

Solar Power and LED Lighting Project

An issue has arisen regarding IPL's inability to net meter the project since IPL can ONLY buy back power from the OWNER of the solar panels, not a third party (CUMC would not be the owner of the solar panels), and the ability to sell back the power to IPL was one of the key components of the project, as presented, to the Leadership Team. Thus, PSG is now reviewing the energy demand of CUMC per the tracking provided by IPL to determine if pursuing the solar power and LED project would make economic sense for CUMC despite the lack of net metering.

Tom Schubert did learn that legislation is being considered (it is currently in the VERY early stages of the process) to allow net metering for non-profit entities, such as CUMC; PSG is also monitoring that legislation.

The timeline for the project is still fluid at this point. If the project makes sense after reviewing CUMC's energy demands and the potential energy production, then CUMC could consider going forward. If the legislation moves quickly and IPL would be able to net meter for non-profits sooner as opposed to later, then it would make sense to wait for a bit to have the legislation in place and then proceed.

Tom provided a brief overview of the project to the new Leadership Team members along with brief description of the LED lighting package, credits, and the potential marketing credit. A three-way contract would still be a requirement of the project from CUMC's standpoint, as well as a non-lien contract. Jeff Cole will return to make another presentation regarding the overall project once a determination when the project moves forward.

Ron asked about battery storage; while batteries would be a way to store the excess energy produced, adding the batteries would increase the cost of the project and require a different control system.

CUMNS

There are 13 ceiling mounted air-handling units in the CUMNS classrooms, six have been replaced, one is leaking (and turned off), and thus work will continue on replacing the units.

Heating and Cooling Issues

There are still problems with the heating and cooling controls, particularly in the summer. These problems have been exacerbated by the fact that during the remodeling (to make the rooms suitable for the United Way grants) windows in the classrooms with outside access were changed to fixed windows that cannot be opened.

Basement Flooding

As of the meeting, the repairs that were made to the sump pump discharge appear to have corrected the flooding issues. Despite the heavier rains, there was no major flooding in the basement as there had been in the past.

Sidewalk repairs

Sidewalk repairs to Ministries Center entrances are complete; however, repairs are still needed to Armstrong wing entrances, especially on the south side of the building.

71st Street Lot at the Ministries Center

The lot on the south side of the Ministries Center is still in need of repaving; however, Tom is unsure where CUMC and Community Health Network stand with regard to renting parking spaces. The original plan was to rent parking to Community Health and use the proceeds from that lease to repave the parking lot.

Family Life Center

There remains drywall work, specifically at the stairs in the back. Since there is to be storage under the stairs, a drywall enclosure is required. The kitchenette in the back is operational.

Finance

CUMC ended Fiscal Year 2016 with total giving of \$1,707,259 which averages \$32,832/week. The year ended stronger than what was expected, but there is still a stretch goal of approximately \$1,000 per week to reach the budgeted weekly amount for fiscal year 2017. Unfortunately, the 3rd Quarter took a large dive in donations; the exact cause is unknown, but July and August are generally considered weaker months for giving. December 2016 was a strong month and 4th

Quarter 2016 was better than 4th Quarter 2015. At the next meeting, Deb expects to have more information on where the year ended on a net basis.

CUMNS and Stillwaters are both doing well financially; Stillwaters made \$37,000 for the year from both locations (that money includes grants received for opening the second location).

With the current tax situation, particularly required minimum distributions on tax-deferred retirement accounts, it would be beneficial if information were available regarding retirement giving directly to CUMC.

Endowment Committee Discussion

The discussion began with a review of what had been approved by the Leadership Team in September 2016. Currently there is a need for people to assist on the two task forces created by the September proposal – one task force to create Endowment Policies and a second task force for communication and fund raising.

To facilitate distributions from the Endowment funds, Tom Schubert made the motion that the Treasurer OR the Endowment Chair be authorized to sign the distribution forms to request distributions from Endowment funds. Carole Craig seconded the motion; the motion was passed unanimously.

The Treasurer of CUMC is currently David Ayers; the Endowment Chair will be a member of the Leadership Team since the Leadership Team is also the Endowment Committee.

New Business

Tom Schubert mentioned that a Campus Clean Up Day is needed, preferably before Holy Week. Tom and Pastor Bert will determine a date.

A new Habitat for Humanity Point of Contact is needed. Ron Miller suggested Phil or Suzy Myers, Pastor Billy also stated that the Mission Team is looking as well.

Central District Leadership Training is January 29th from 2:30 until 4:30 at CUMC. After the Training, there will be a reception for the new District Superintendent, Jim Bushfield, and an installation service at 5:30. The link to registration can be found through the Central District weekley e-bulletin.

New Members

Pastor Bert cited that in 2015 there were no first time professions of faith; we have people who have attended CUMC, but are not joining. Discussion ensued about possibly adding a part time person who would track the people that come thorough the doors at CUMC and followup with them regarding membership and plugging in to CUMC. We will discuss in more detail, with more information later.

Small groups – currently there is no list of all the small groups at CUMC, Pastor Billy is planning to work on that.

Service Schedule - There are several concerns regarding the movement to two services – Pastor Bert is planning to bring data to a later meeting to explain those concerns. Most churches the size of CUMC have at least three services, some even have two different types of services running concurrently. CUMC needs to recruit young families otherwise 2 to 3 generations from now, there will be major problems for what would be CUMC. Thus far, CUMC, at 174 years old, is beyond the average life cycle for churches in the Indiana Conference at 100-150 years.

Welcome Center – the original idea is to have 2 person teams with one person at the desk and the other standing in front to greet people coming to CUMC. Pastor Billy will research and discuss.

Stewardship

The stewardship efforts need to ramp up; Cecil Whitaker has agreed to become the Stewardship Chair for CUMC. Pastor Bert also mentioned that Charlie Round would be brought in to consult on Stewardship and help with the Stewardship Campaign. The campaign will be planned with the big push day the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

The next meeting is scheduled for the 3rd Tuesday of February, February 21st, at 6:30 P.M. in the Ministries Center.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned and Larry Burch closed the meeting in prayer at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Kimberly Paulus Tauriainen