

West Side Baptist Church Council Minutes

February 14, 2023

Present: Sonia Roling; Pastor Ivan Greuter; Jack Janway; Don Johnson; Carla Donnelly; Colleen Smith; Brice Smith; Chuck Cozad; and Fran Seymour-Hunter. Absent: Harry Carpenter; Janice Kirby; and Nancy Lindberg. Guest: Jessica Gilmore.

The meeting was called to order by Sonia Roling and she opened with a prayer.

Minutes: With deletion of a duplicate word, the minutes were approved following a motion and second.

Treasurer's Report: In Nancy's absence, Council members were encouraged to read the reports she provided and connect with Nancy if there are questions. Sonia noted that the new insurance premium amount for Lynda is noted in the budget. There is a need for a correction on Meadows clothing items with contact on this made by the Pastor. Jack was able to provide information to Don on a question he had about a line item in Missions.

Ministry Reporting

Fellowship/Membership: Due to challenges facing Carla, she will be resigning her position on the Council. She has asked Jessica Gilmore to replace her and she has accepted. This will require a vote in a Church business meeting. This meeting could be scheduled as early as January 26th following appropriate announcements. No report was given.

Outreach: Jack prepared a report that was shared with the Council on the activities with the Outreach and Evangelism Committee. It was noted that Jack had signed our Church up to participate in the Share Fest event again this year. This event is to be held on April 29th and Jack will promote this to the membership. Baby food and wipes have been obtained for the Baby Closet. Size 3 and 4 diapers needed to be purchased. Jack noted that they have been very busy in the Baby Closet. The Harvester's distribution is "feast or famine".

Personnel: No report was given but it was noted that there remains a need for another nursery worker. As noted earlier, the premium for Lynda's health insurance was reflected in the budget.

Administration/ Stewardship: In Harry's absence, no report was provided.

Worship: Brice noted that contact was made by First Baptist regarding a potential partnership for a Good Friday service. A meeting is schedule on the 21st to discuss this further. As a "heads up": Brice made note that a potential employment opportunity may interface with scheduled Council meetings but that is not a definite conflict at this time. This led to a brief discussion on attendance expectations for Council members and potential accommodations on a case by case basis.

Christian Education: Colleen reported the youth fundraiser dinner after Church is scheduled and will be on a free will offering basis for reimbursement. Junior Church for the Middle Schoolers has been started with Tera and Ashley as the teachers. Plans for Vacation Bible School will be discussed in the next Christian Ed meeting.

Missions: Don said he is welcoming any ideas for projects that could be supported by the Missions committee. There is a thought that this group may select a missionary to support throughout the year.

The goal for the America of Christ March offering is \$1750. Brice offered to incorporate any videos into the worship service if they are provided for this offering. From the assembly of 50 packages for the Blessing Boxes, 30 have been distributed. A gift was provided to the Bethel Center in the memory of Mong's mother. Once the ground has been unfrozen, the Church's Blessing Box will be installed.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Ivan routed his monthly report earlier. Due to his trip to Liberia, it was an "easy" report to prepare. He will be making a presentation on this trip to the Congregation on March 4th. He has already received a thank you note for his time there along with an invitation to return. Several future meetings were specifically mentioned: the ABCCR Board of Directors and the International Ministries Board of Directors. On the Pastor's report, he noted requests for Continuing Ed and vacation absences. A motion was made to approve these written requests. The motion was seconded and passed. Macy has been nominated to be a Regional Delegate to the Puerto Rico Biennial meeting. The Church can also nominate delegates to attend per Church body vote. An additional item to discuss related to the IRS standard mileage reimbursement established each January. For 2023, this is 65.5 cents/mile. It was moved, seconded, and passed to determine this for mileage reimbursement in 2023. Also, Ivan has had a meeting with the Executive Minister (with the President of the Region in attendance) re: issues/concerns. These are being worked through.

Moderator's Report: Sonia had nothing to report but welcomes feedback or suggestions in her new role.

Old Business: None was brought forward.

New Business: Jack requested permission to pursue an ABCCR small Church grant. It was moved, seconded, and passed to support this application.

Closing notes: Jack expressed appreciation on the participation with the Super Bowl activities. The soup and crackers collected was taken to Door Step by Ernie. Also, around \$70 was collected for the Souper Bowl collection.

The meeting was adjourned with pastoral prayer. The next meeting is scheduled for March 14th.

Respectfully submitted by

Fran Seymour-Hunter, Church Clerk