

West Side Baptist Church Council Minutes

October 10, 2023

Present: Sonia Roling; Pastor Ivan Greuter; Jack Janway; Clarence Payne; Don Johnson; Colleen Smith; Brice Smith; Nancy Lindberg; and Chuck Cozad; and Fran Seymour-Hunter. Absent: Janice Kirby

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

Minutes: The minutes were approved as written.

Ministry Reporting

Personnel: Background checks will be needed for Nursery worker candidates. There will be items to discuss with the 2024 budget conversation. Recommendations will be finalized and routed.

Outreach: Jack reported he has already been advised that the date for the next Share Fest is set from 8-Noon on April 27th. Arrangements have been made for food to be delivered for the upcoming Meadows Teacher/Parent Conferences. Donations will be sought from the Congregation to fill holiday boxes for both Meadows and Lowman Hills families. A \$500 grant has been obtained to provide hams. Jack is waiting to see what the Harvester's allotment will be for turkey/chicken distribution. The Trunk or Treat event remains scheduled for the 31st.

Christian Education: Colleen reported that the Sunday School classes are proceeding well. Junior Church was suspended for a couple of weeks and a decision will be made regarding restarting it. The snack/chat fellowship time continues. Janelle Hood has agreed to serve as the Nursery Coordinator. The Christian Ed committee will be meeting on Tuesday. Colleen will be creating a desserts sign-up sheet for WWW.

Missions: Don noted that the World Mission Offering is being collected in October with over \$1500 collected thus far. The Pastor noted there is an opportunity to join with other Baptist congregations for a Mission trip to Alaska. There is a potential scholarship available through ABCCR that might be able to help defray associated expenses for this trip.

Worship: Brice reported that Poinsettia orders will be required early this year with that order deadline November 5th. First Baptist asked of our interest in joining them for a Thanksgiving service. There was a brief discussion about this with no decision reached to join them. Plans are to hold a Christmas Eve service.

Administration/ Stewardship: Clarence reported that there has been a training session on the work needed with Baptisms. Plans are to document the needed steps. Repairs are needed for the water line. A crescent wrench is needed to turn the water on/off. Repairs needed behind the concrete wall. An estimate for this repair is around \$1400 but that is dependent on what is found with the pipe conduit behind the wall. A motion was made to use funding from line items 7550 and 7900 for this work. This motion was seconded and approved. There was discussion about the need for a window in the office area that can be opened and closed. There was a recommendation from the Properties to approve five new windows for the office area including that option. Somehow installation did not follow what was approved initially. There was much discussion about next steps. Windows were approved in the Capital Campaign funding list. Decision was reached to purchased two slider windows and three regular windows for installation in the Spring using Capital Campaign funding. On a positive side note, Steve Hood has agreed to accept the Stewardship Council position.

Fellowship/Membership: No update was provided in the absence of a Council member in this position.

Treasurer's Report: The October summary sheet was reviewed. This report was accepted by consensus. The preliminary 2024 draft budget discussion deferred to later in the meeting.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Ivan routed two monthly reports. He noted that he has seen an increase in Pastoral consultations over the past couple of months. He has been asked to consider a men's support group on anger management. He also reported on use of the Benevolence funds. Due to rent assistance funding flowing through Door Step all rental assistance requests will be routed in that direction.

Moderator's Report: Sonia had nothing new to report.

Old Business: There was nothing brought up.

New Business: The Pastor asked about plans for the Stewardship Campaign. It was decided to hold the Stewardship dinner on November 19th with a catered meal. Promotion for this will be done via bulletin notations and from the pulpit. Plans will be to vote on the tentative budget on December 3rd with the Christmas breakfast. Discussion then ensued on the draft 2024 budget with information Nancy has received thus far. November updates will be received on the Topeka Community Foundations distributions. A request was received from the Pastor regarding his salary for consideration. That request may impact what is done with the other staff positions. Clarification provided by Nancy on a few of the line items. Per discussion in the meeting, several line item amounts changed. In some cases, more consideration will be given to the line item amounts with feedback given to Nancy prior to the November Council meeting.

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

Respectfully submitted by

Fran Seymour-Hunter, Church Clerk