

Minutes

BOT meeting in person and **on Zoom**

4:30 p.m. January 28, 2025

Present: Jimmy Reeves, President; Mark Gentner, Vice Pres; Kathryn Sisler Waple, Secretary; Michael Sheridan, Jeannie Lennon, Kathy Gilcrist, JoAnn Skinner, Fran Strauss, Via zoom - Dennis Mucully , Alyssa Lee, Minister

- Light a candle/Opening words
- Check-in
- Executive Session on job descriptions
 - Jimmy Motion to accept job descriptions as written by Personnel Committee
 - Accepted unanimously
- Report on long range plans and Building and Grounds by Dan Wheat Rivers
 - We are going to have to expand the building at some point and Dan presented some plans put together by the campus committee
 - Plan A is building out the sanctuary. We would have to take out a few trees, reangle the driveway. It would take up office spaces, entryway and part of the side of the driveway
 - Classroom space would become the new vestibule
 - Classroom 2 would become admin office.
 - Nursery and re would stay where they are
 - Rework bathrooms
 - What is currently Dobkin hall would be split, either permanently or with partitions, and that would become classroom space and kitchen that we connect to a new fellowship hall
 - We have 65 feet before playground, so we have about 60 feet to build out behind us.
 - New Dobkin hall would have partitions
 - Could also potentially have second story.
 - Cost would include an elevator
 - Plan includes 2 closets for storage
 - This would double the size of both the sanctuary and fellowship hall
 - Current is 900 square feet
 - New plan is around 2k square feet with option to divide
 - And we would have a much larger kitchen!
 - Cons
 - Much smaller vestibule
 - We would have to figure out how to center the triptych (big wooden thing), windows and peak of roof
 - Plan B
 - Without extended out to expand the sanctuary would take up

- the vestibule and office space
 - Would have to gable the roof in
 - Do not yet have per square foot cost.
- Plan C is to make the sanctuary fellowship hall and expand dobkin hall to be the new sanctuary.
 - Biggest drawback is that kitchen will be so far from fellowship hall
 - There wouldn't be any building change except kitchen and new bathrooms
 - Building the new sanctuary.
 - This option is potentially less expensive.
- General considerations
 - Get AV out of the closet and have them on a platform
 - Better sound, better quality, easier to do the job
 - Can potentially build storage into the platform area.
 - We cannot go out the front of the building, we only have 3 or 4 feet before setbacks
 - We cannot expand the hallway
 - May put cover over sidewalk along outside the building
 - Dan's preferred plan is A
 - We do not at this time have a strategic planning committee
 - Alyssa is going to create a long range/long term strategic planning committee
 - This is separate from building and grounds
 - This is the committee for the day to day needs of the physical plant.
- Round of applause for Dan taking over Chair of the Building and Grounds Committee!
 - Projects - mud tape coming down, water stains on sealing, women's bathroom
 - Has a list started, but Dan is also very mindful about not stepping on anyone else's toes with projects and punchlist items
 - Dan is going to work on compiling a list of people who can do some of the small jobs around the church
 - We do not need mulch in the playground since we aren't a childcare facility
 - Children need to be supervised by parents while using the playground
- Approval of Reports (Available on Google Drive):
 - Report from Alyssa
 - Clarification from Alyssa on Minister Advisory Team

- UUA oversees Alyssa for 3+ years; she sends yearly reports; meets monthly with a ministerial advisory team; talk with mentor and team about those things. Also people who can run things by, support and mentorship from the congregation. Members of this team can rotate. She can make it however she would like. Alyssa is thinking 4-5 people.
 - Been contacted by the Cape Fear Safe Parking reached out to Rev. Alyssa
 - They are asking churches in particular to offer 5 parking spaces to unhoused people who live in their cars. Reserve ten spots in your parking lot and they have permits for each of the people in their cars. City Council and Police already know and say it's ok. They only need to use the spots.
 - There is a meeting in February about interest
 - Is there any liability risk?
 - They would like to have one person who is on call
 - Will this affect our relationship with our neighbors?
 - We would not be responsible for cleaning the porta john
 - The Board gives Rev. Alyssa the go ahead to gather more information.
 - RE report from Rev Kelley
 - Statement of Condition and Statement of Activities
 - Board Minutes from 11/26 meeting
 - Reports accepted as submitted and edited.
- Date of Annual Meeting
 - Sunday June 1st, 2025
 - The rental agreement at Long Leaf Park doesn't accommodate us anymore
 - Dennis proposes that we do the annual picnic at the Church!
- Discuss status of shared outdoor space (Plan for dedication, painting, ground prep)
 - Painting is happening in March ish once the wood dries.
 - Kathryn will begin the process of collecting ideas for what we would like to do to "finish" the space
 - Playground dedication is set for February 16th right after the service.
- Discussions about methods of feedback for Rev Alyssa on her first year
 - Alyssa had a really good conversation with CFM for this.
 - A performance evaluation is a really good thing, but for year 3 or so, not in the first year.
 - One is an overarching feedback process on the ministerial services of the church.
 - The name of the recommended book is Completing the Circle.
 - We're thinking something like cottage meetings, small group, from people who attend often, from people who don't attend so much, from people with children and older people.
 - Alyssa is good with working with CFM around this.
- Committee liaison reports
 - MET is making progress

- MET has been focused on visitors and new people, we have an engagement issue for new people
 - Sara Jarvis and CFM is working on a team with a few people to plan events that will just be fun. Dot Hodder, Andrea Wodraszka and Dana Carpenter are also involved.
- Auction – date in May
 - Fundraising is part of GLT - Gary is the committee Chair.
 - He wants to have this thing established professionally.
 - Scott knows he needs to get the form filled out, and get together a list of what we need to do.
 - We need to get more people to the meeting and streamline the process
 - Nancy Buckingham has a lot of fundraising experience.
 - There is no movement on the auction committee until there are more people able to make the meetings.
- Water fountain update (Fran)
 - Waiting on a bid from Michael and Sons
- Christmas Card fundraiser
 - No update, we've sold some, and Fran still has some
- Safety committee and FEMA grant.
 - Safety committee is meeting Thursday on zoom
 - Michael needs to talk to Gary about the FEMA grants
 - Gary already has many of the required items.
 - Jimmy asked Sierra to ask officer ben about getting a formal report
 - Holly took great notes and so the officer could write the report from the notes
- Immigrant Rights (Michael)
 - We need to decide what we are going to do as a faith community about what is happening to our immigrants
 - We would get a sign that says that ICE, etc, cannot enter without a warrant.
 - The Board approves the request by the Social Justice Ministry to pursue what other churches are doing to support immigrant rights.
 - This includes signage on our door
 - We are going to have five inner circles of work
 - Michael is going to send in the diagram of the circles of work.
 - There is going to be training on becoming an ICE watch party.
 - There is also going to be the outer circles who assist with events but aren't expected to join a committee or attend meetings.
- The STP has asked that we require that people on STP are members, and not friends
 - The Board agrees to the policy change. Policy 4.5
- To put on agenda for next meeting
 - Salary conversation
 - Top of agenda is social justice ministry
- Chalice extinguished at 6:49 PM