

Dec 21, 2015 Board Meeting

Attendees: Jane Park, Stiles Thompson, Loren Boyer, John Drury, Josh Ashley, Rev Karen Matteson, Rece Howley

Absent: Miriam Williams, Jen Conroy, Don Hawkns

Attendees FY 2016 Board: John Holt, Winky Sweet

Executive Session:

Kathy Roniger has agreed to be a candidate to fill Patti Abraham's slot on the Committee on Ministry (COM). The board voted 5 Aye, 1 Abstain in favor of Kathy serving on the COM.

The board discussed nominating Steve Urbanczyk to serve the remaining time on the vacant member-at-large position. The board voted 5 Aye, 1 abstain in favor of authorizing Jane Park to talk with Steve about serving on the board.

Executive Session ended.

The board discussed some ideas for reducing the size of the board, but came to no conclusion. Currently the board represents 10% of the membership.

Rev Karen summarized the two World Cafes. The first one was more specific and centered on Community. The second one covered several topics but centered on the Mission of this Church. There will be more discussion in her report next month.

Committee reports

Rece Howley, John Drury, and Kathy Roniger met and agreed to form a Caring Circle. Rece will take the lead.

Committee on Ministry. This was a year of forming and distinguishing the COM from the former CMC.

Facilities: Fred Boyer obtained some estimates from ADT on security services. All of them are costly. Fred recommended we not take the ADT security service. There is a problem with a person not locking up after using the church. Fred is going to talk with the individual.

As a follow on to the discussion on security services we discussed insurance. We need to answer the question of what coverage we have on the insurance policy, building valuation and so on. Stiles Thompson will follow up.

Finance: John Holt talked about asking for money from the pulpit. These requests can and should be handled during the announcement part of the service not from the pulpit.

Membership: We had an induction ceremony this past Sunday. Membership is now over 109. John Drury added that we have been averaging ~55 adults in attendance lately.

Religious Exploration: Jane Park had a conversation with Lisa Farley. We need to rethink how we organize the RE committee. Still need to find a RE Chair. More to follow.

Food, Fun, and Fellowship: Jane Mullins is trying to restart Dinners for Eight.

Other topics:

Bricks: John Drury looked into using paving bricks for a memorial that can be set up near the pergola. Stiles Thompson has a list of donor names. There was no vote but the board generally agreed with John and Stiles accomplishing this effort. They will coordinate the artwork, names, etc.

Church Improvements: John Drury spoke extensively about ways to improve the church and retain/attract members.

- Spoke about advertising and how we might appeal to a wider audience. Print ads in Eglin Flyer are one example. We need to get into the newspaper at least once a month. For example, we could have a changing of leadership ceremony and send photographs to the newspaper.
- Use meta-data on our webpage that Google or Chrome can find is another.
- Attract older people as well as younger people.
- Recommend that the church be cleaned up. The carpet is starting to fall apart.
- Suggest that we move the coffee hour so that it can be extended.