

October 18, 2016 LB Minutes for New Town UMC

Love God, Love Others, Share Christ with the World

Attendance:

Carl Timmer – Chair

Dee Scott

Cameron Boone

Peg Williams

Christine Hernandez

Mark Matney

Devotional by Cameron Boone

- I. Approval of September minutes – Carl motions to pass, Dee seconds the motion, minutes approved
- II. Charge Conference is on Wednesday 10/26 at 7pm. Cameron to give presentation about youth band ministry.
- III. Nominations for Trustees and LB: all considered applicants for LB declined to be interviewed or move forward with the process. Tom Hassler submitted as lay member to annual conference. Ed Hernandez ('16), Terry Bossieux ('17), Pat Martin ('19) submitted by nominations team for LB approval to be elected at charge conference. LB unanimously votes to approve nominations.
- IV. Rick Bonfim visit: NTUMC pay for ½ of plane ticket and hotel nights with Susanna Wesley. We are guaranteeing at least 500 dollars in offering per service. We are looking for ushers and greeters. A banner has been made and will go up on the street next week. We will have lemonade and water as refreshments. There will be prayer time with Rick for church leadership on Saturday the 29th.
- V. Long Ranger Strategic Planning Committee Update: it is requested by the LRSPC that LB determine whether this committee makes subjective or objective goals. Board members ask for clarification on this, and the general consensus is that the LRSPC wants to know how detail-oriented to get about the goals they set forth. Basically, what does LB want them to do? Are they looking out at 1, 3, or 5 years? Lindsay (LRSPC chair) wants help in understanding the purview of this committee. The committee has been put on hold pending discussions about whether we stay with Simple Church and if/when we get a finance chair.
- VI. Wesleyan Covenant Association Report: Handouts available in church office with more specifics. Over 1800 people came, there was lots of support from Africa. WCA wants issues in UMC decided by early 2018. Unity would be nice but a split is inevitable.
- VII. Gretchen's Presentation: the following is from Gretchen to be included in the minutes.

The preschool is celebrating its 10th year as a ministry of New Town UMC. It was God inspired and has been a very successful ministry netting about \$212,000 a year. As of last year, we have been rated a level 5 preschool, which is the highest rating a preschool can attain with the state Virginia Quality Initiative.

Ten years ago, the Leadership Council set up a pay scale with the preschool being responsible for paying all teacher salaries and expenses as well as a little over \$9800 of the director's salary. This pay scale has been the format that our school has used for 8 years. In 2015, the church picked up \$6000 more of my salary with the intention that the Children's Ministry/Preschool Director's salary would eventually be paid completely from the church budget. Since the preschool has started, we have always been self sufficient and have never borrowed money from the church. Over the years we have contributed to purchasing all of the furniture and toys in the children's wing, paid for the entire playground (except for the one large climbing equipment) helped pay for cleaning the building as well as stripping floors, carpets etc. We have also donated a portion of our surplus money each year to the general church budget and have been paying for the loan for the playground/church.

This spring, Leadership Board changed the pay scale ratio for the preschool...

Since July, the preschool has been paying my entire salary which will stay in affect until January of this year. This included the preschool paying for my children's ministry salary as well. By January, the Preschool will have paid close to \$23,400 out of the preschool savings account.

Starting January 2017, the preschool will be required to pay 70% of my salary. With this new salary model, the preschool will not be sustainable.

The Leadership Board has asked the preschool to raise more money...this is what we have already done and are planning to do for the remainder of the year.

We have raised 2016-2017 tuition, raised registration costs and raised lunch bunch costs per child.

We added a Friday class to the T, Th 3's class to add more income

We have planned 7 fundraisers this year....

- Oct. Lularoe clothing
- Nov. Picture day (we raise about \$200 a year)
- Dec. Sell DVD's of the Christmas program
- Jan. PJ Pancake party
- Feb. Blaze pizza spirit night
- Mar. Chick-fil-a spirit night
- Apr. NAM (our annual auction has raised over \$167,000 in 9

years)

If the stars are aligned and we raise \$28,000 at NAM we will still be short about \$7500 a year.

In order to raise enough funds to absorb my additional salary, we will need to increase the size of our preschool. One way that we could do that is to add a Kindergarten.

To add a kindergarten, we would have two options....

1. Move our preschool to a new larger location
 - a. rent a space 7,000 sq. feet costs about \$7500 a month
 - b. build a school in a new location
 - c. move to another church with more space
 - d. move to another school that would like a preschool such as Covenant or Providence
2. Add on to our existing building

Since we originated the school at New Town, I wanted to see if I could make option 2 work. I started thinking outside of the box and came up with 2 options. Both options I have shared with the trustees as to Pastor Mike's request.

1. Enlarge room 109. Would impact the looks of the sanctuary and would also be hard to do with the air vent system.
Pros...Would keep Kindergarten on preschool hallway.
2. Enlarge the back of the youth room to make one big room which would include the 2 back offices. This option would effect staff offices. After talking to Marie and Steve, both were willing to be flexible. Since Steve is not in his office most days, he is willing to move up to the stage in Chris Julie's office. Chris can share my office with Natalie and myself. Marie is willing to share with Kelly Franzone or whoever. Steve's office could be for youth ministry.

This option would also effect the small back third of the youth room. Instead of a small space, they will now have a larger, more useable space.

This new space would work as a classroom during the day and then could be used for youth or other meetings in the afternoon and night. Stacey and I have talked about how we can make the space

Kdg. friendly as well as youth friendly and have come up with some good ideas. We both think that we could work together to make the environment great for both groups.

After doing some homework, the trustees have decided that the youth space would be the cheapest and best option.

The trustees encouraged me to pursue what the cost of the renovation would be including consulting a structural engineer. Their input would determine if the youth space was financially feasible.

Richard had a structural engineer look at the plans of our building. Construction in the youth area would affect a load bearing wall. The cost to draw up the structural plans was quoted at \$1800. Richard is getting another quote to see if he can get the drawings done cheaper. The structural engineer did not think it would be very expensive and not difficult to secure the load bearing wall. Richard would also be willing to sit with the Leadership board in November to go over the plans. He estimates that the job would not cost over \$10,000. Richard also thinks that we will need the plans drawn up from the structural engineer before we can get exact costs.

Moving forward, building plans would need to be approved by the city. Except for fixing the load bearing wall, the trustees feel that we could do most of the renovations in house to keep the costs down.

After researching all of the kindergartens in the area, we could offer a part time kindergarten from 9:00-2:00 daily and gross in additional money \$74,250 a year. Net would be about \$38,250 after paying teachers etc.

This is based on 15 children @ \$5.50 an hour or \$27.50 a day per child. The preschool would raise the money to have the room altered.

To implement a kindergarten for the upcoming year, Leadership Board would need to make a decision by mid November. Registration for the 2017-2018 school year will be distributed to preschool families by mid December.

In order for this alternative to make a viable difference to our bottom line, we would need to notify preschool families as soon as possible.

END Gretchen proposal