

KING OF PEACE MCC

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

July 20, 2021, via ZOOM

Because of technical difficulties, the board meeting did not begin until 6:56, with prayer by Rev Renae

Establish a Quorum: Present: Board Members Jeanne Scanlon, Bob Pope and Rev. Renae Phillips. Also present, new Board member, Ron Hill, and Susan McGrath arrived just after we began. Ian Gomez is on vacation out-of-the-country, and Susan Burhouse is out-of-town and unable to gain internet connection. Also attending was Chris Soucy and Dwayne Shepherd.

Meeting called to Order. With a quorum present Rev. Renae called the meeting to order, with Jeanne reciting the Board of Director's Covenant of Leadership. Ron will serve as time keeper, and Bob will be the scribe.

Consideration of the Agenda:

The clerk's minutes of the last meeting had been provided earlier, and a motion to accept was made by Jeanne and 2nd by Ron. Passed unanimously.

The Interim Pastor's Report had been received earlier, and Rev Renae featured some of her report, especially the fine service of Ordination held last Saturday for now Rev. Ray Simms. Rev Renae also spoke of the great loss in the resignation of Rev Craig as our Congregational Care pastor, but noted that he would be continuing his service at Tampa MCC, and we would continue to share in their programs and classes. She also mentioned a surprised visit she and Susan Burhouse made to the offices of our former accountant, and discussed their conversation with the owner, who was surprised and disappointed in losing our account. With the new accounting service, we should receive the June and July financials before the next board meeting, set for August 17th. A new procedure has been established, so the office provides the accounting office with the information on needed checks, and our Administrator Melanie will pick them up on Thursday, and they will be available for board signature on Sunday morning as the offering is counted. Rev Renae also reported on her lunch with Rev. Lynn of St. Luke's United Methodist Church, who received our delegation earlier, and she indicated she slowly mentioning this to her board. Rev Renae indicated to Rev. Lynn that should we come to an understanding, KOP would be interested in utilizing their Social Hall for our services.

The Treasurer's Report. April and May 2021 Financials were received earlier, but no report from Susan Burhouse other than an email she provided prior to the meeting.

There were no Action Items to be consider; nor were there any Zoom/Email considerations made during the previous time since our last meeting.

Old Business:

-Worship Protocols. A general discussion was held on the current need to continue the need for masks, and no singing except the last hymn. Rev Renae spoke on the churches need to be extra careful, especially with the rise of the Delta Variance. It was mentioned that coffee would be a great addition, and this will be considered for our future social gatherings after service.

-Update on the Sale of the Building. Bob gave a detailed report on the current status of the sale, and the discussion held with the buyer and their representatives. After some discussion, their requests for a Third Amendment to the Sales Contract was necessitated because the City of St. Petersburg has not given their final approval on financing for Affordable Housing funds. It was explained that HUD had made a commitment, but neither Pinellas County nor St. Petersburg had acted on their proposal, even though they were most favorable on the concept. Finally, the buyers agree to made an additional deposit of \$50,000 into the escrow account, to provide the church with a total of 17 weeks free access to the building after closing, and to advance the sale date upon the satisfaction of two items: Clearing the Duke Easement, and Approval by St. Petersburg of funds for Affordable Housing.

-Update on Current condition of the building. Jeanne reported that due to additional rains we are seeing more leaks, although not as bad as before. She indicated Dean asked if he and his partner could go on the roof and put down some roof tar, and hopefully seal some of these leak areas. The board had no problem with accepting help from members of the congregation.

-Report from the Facility Search Team. Jeanne reported a visit to St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church on South 34th Street. The facility is large, and could possibly be an option, although the 'rental' price quoted was very high.

-Celebration for Rev. Candace. With Ian out-of-town, the details of this celebration are unknown at this time.

-Stewardship/Budget. Rev Renae and Rev Ray will be meeting this week and discussing the Stewardship Ministry. When Susan Burhouse returns from vacation, they will begin work on the budget for 2022.

New Business:

-August 8th Forum Agenda. A proposed Agenda for the Forum was previously provided, and there was some discussion concerning additions to the proposal, with committee report updates. Need a time keeper. Rev. Renae wants to make these forums a quarterly event, to keep the congregation informed as to the status of the church.

-Drag Bingo Fundraiser. Rev Renae reported her discussions with Brad Rice about Drag Bingo at Punky, probably on a Thursday night in September. Hopefully, the church can do one fun thing each month, with the Name That Tune set for this week. We would be responsible for providing 10 modest priced prizes for the ten-game played. Players pay \$10 for the ten games, and the church will receive all these funds, plus from the 50/50 raffle (which will require the church to furnish volunteers to sell tickets) the church will receive half of those funds.

-Paying Taxes on Duke Electric. Rev Renae reported that KOP has been paying sales tax on our Electric bill from Duke, and probably been doing so for a long time. She will call Duke, and see what needs to be done to stop this, and provide Duke whatever is necessary to affirm our tax-free status, and see what can be done to seek a refund.

-Pitney-Bowes Postal Machine. The church leases a postal machine from Piney-Bowes, under a contract that terminates on September 9 of this year. Pitney Bowes wants the church to sign a new contract for 63 months, but Rev. Renae questions the need for the church to have a postal machine, since most of our communications is made electronically, via email. The current machine costs the church \$50 per month, plus postage, transaction fees, ink and cleaning costs. Bob moved, seconded by Jeanne, to end our relationship with Pitney Bowes upon the termination of the current lease agreement. Motion passed unanimously.

-Discuss on Church Furniture/Items for Sale. There are a number of items that could be sold at this stage of our move, things we no longer use, and will not be moving. An inventory needs to be taken, with the congregation alerted to such items. If they gave the item to the church and want it back, to advise us. Otherwise, we could have a church sale BUY A PIECE OF KING OF PEACE.

-Added item of New Business: We have been offered an opportunity to provide our membership with information concerning mortgage or refinancing possibilities with Guaranteed Rate Service, through Dana Hesity, who would then donate back to the church 10% of the fee upon closing. It was suggested that Dana be available for private conversations with members, but it would not show any endorsement by the church.

There being no further business, the open meeting of the Board of Director's was closed, and the Board then went into Executive Session.

The Executive Session meeting closed with prayer at 9:05 pm.

Bob Pope, Clerk