

Charlottesville City Cooperative Parish

February 20, 2023

Members in Attendance: Lisa Hanrahan(Chair), Alex Joyner, Cindy Remington, Paige Lindblom, Bill Clarke, Dana Palmer, Frank McMullen, Jim Berlin, Jeff Taylor, Dubie Dubendorfer, George Batten, Priscilla Sprague (recording secretary)

Others in Attendance: Charles Kidd, Guy Moffatt, Hu Shaffer

Lisa Hanrahan welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:00PM

Bill Clarke gave the devotional and opening prayer.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Impact Meeting Scheduled for February 22 @ 7:15 PM (George Batten)

This is a Social Justice Ministry meeting to prepare parishioners who wish to participate in the Nehemiah Action Meeting scheduled for March 2, 2023. We will meet in the 2nd floor classroom (208) and all are invited to participate. [This] issues to be worked on include: Affordable Housing, Affordable Preschool Care and/or After School Care for working families, and CTS buses to move to a schedule that will limit the wait time for transit to 15 minutes or less (current wait times approach or exceed 45 minutes). The Nehemiah Action meeting will include all 25 local congregations invested in Social Justice issues, along with the Mayor and City Council Members form Charlottesville, as well as Albemarle County Supervisors.

Financial Report: (Jeff Taylor)

Financial Highlights • January 2023 Financials are not finalized • January Contributions were above last year (\$12K) as presented on the following slide • Operating Cash is at \$326K or 5.9 months of 2023 budgeted operations. The entire report (with graphs) is attached)

Ministry Report: (Cindy Poots Remington)

Cindy briefly went over the various activities and events that the Nurture Team has planned for this spring. The activities may be found in the attachment to the minutes. She did emphasize that regarding Rise Against Hunger on April 15, that we needed to raise an additional \$3,000 to pay for the 20,000 meals we have committed to make. The Taylors and Remingtons are coordinating the event and more information will be forthcoming.

Report of SAS (Simplified Accounting Systems) Workshop:

This was a Zoom informational meeting attended by Frank, Bill, Cindy, and Lisa. Their consensus is that we at [FUMC] are “pretty much” already doing the things they recommend. Frank made two suggestions of improvement for us to work on: Timely Goals and Accountability. He believes, and was

supported in this view by others, that we could do a better job of keeping parishioners informed. Essentially need to put the goals out there and then provide regular updates re: progress (or lack thereof) and use of funds. Lisa also noted that having reports from the various 'teams' submitted to the Council ahead of time would be more efficient and allow more time to discuss other topics or concerns.

Report from Fresh Expressions Workshop:

Lisa recapped the Fresh Expressions Workshop held on January 14 at Aldersgate UMC. Rev. Jim Chandler led members from several churches through the workshop. Attendees from First UMC were Jim and Kathy Berlin, Sue and Scott Barker, Bonnie Randolph, Alex Joyner, Lisa Hanrahan, Dana Palmer, and Cindy Remington. Fresh Expressions is a program that originated in the UK to seek new ways for creating faith communities or worship experiences where people are already gathering outside of the church. The hiking and running groups, Bible studies in homes, and Taco Tuesdays are a few of the activities we have done along the lines of Fresh Expressions, but we can do more. There are a lot of opportunities for people to be involved but we need to encourage more people to participate. Bill suggested Laity Net, a Virginia UMC website where lay leaders can exchange information and perhaps find new ideas.

Pastor's Report:

Alex was pleased to announce the unanimous approval for the merger of FUMC and HAUMC that occurred at the Church Conferences on February 12. There are details to still be worked out – finances, logo redesign, and joint leadership. There is much work to be done regarding the disposition of Hinton Avenue church and property. Discussion of this by Council reveals that no one is in favor of taking on the cost it would take to make the needed repairs of the building.

Alex also reported that he has been contacted by the Drum Circle group regarding a repeat of last year's event in Market Street Park. The group is very enthusiastic about a second show! Alex also noted that he would be offering ashes on Ash Wednesday on the downtown mall and we would again offer prayers in the park on Wednesdays during Lent.

Other Items

Hu Shaffer reported that HAMC supported 2 scout troops and encourages us to include a plan to continue that support as we are now merged. He noted that two boy scout troops from Charlotte, NC will be in Charlottesville March 24-27. They will be doing tours of historic presidential homes and will be "camping" in our church for their stay. It is tradition in the Methodist Churches to house scout troops in this fashion. They will be always supervised by their leaders and the Scouts will take care of their own meals, only using the kitchen to prepare their breakfasts.

Bill Clarke reported 33 church disaffiliations were approved by the Virginia Conference last week. One additional church (Newtown in Williamsburg) was held back because of a problem of ownership of

the building and the property on which it is situated that must be resolved before the disaffiliation can be approved.

Adjournment: Alex closed the meeting with a prayer and the meeting ended at 8:05 PM, following a motion to adjourn by Frank McMullen and second by Priscilla Sprague.

Our next meeting will be on March 22. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall with HAMC leadership team for dinner at 6:00PM and proceed with the Council meeting immediately following. Please RSVP to Lisa by March 20.

Respectfully submitted,

Priscilla Sprague, Recording Secretary

Ministry Council Report- Cindy Remington

January 2023

Rise Against Hunger

Date: April 15 8:30-12

- We need to raise another \$3,000 to pay for the 20,000 meals to which we have committed. The Taylors and (Poots)Remingtons are coordinating the event and will need 75-100 volunteers to make this happen. A sign-up genius will be created in the next few weeks and a video/presentation soliciting resources will be shown in church to help market the event.
- Strong arms will be required to do some of the lifting of the food!
- As a multigenerational event, we will focus on getting younger families involved.

Plant Sale Fundraiser

Date: April 29

We will be asking for donations of a variety of seedlings and plants to sell as a fundraiser for the Nurture Team. Cindy is heading this up but will need lots of help. More details to follow in March.

St. Paddy's Day "Pot" "Luck" Dinner

Date: March 19 5:00

Covered dish supper that will include musical painting and a cake auction.

Fresh Expressions

This is currently being explored as a way to offer church outside of the walls of the building. Alex has more information that he will present at the CC meeting.

Quilt Ministry

The demonstration after church on 2/19 encouraged two more people to consider helping with this ministry.

2/20/23