

CFUMC Council Meeting Minutes

June 19, 2023

Members Present: Lisa Hanrahan, Lisa Mann, Alex Joyner, Dubie Dubendorfer, Jeff Taylor, Dave Wheatley, Charles Kidd, Cindy Poots Remington, Dana Palmer, Paige Lindblom, Guy Moffatt, Fred Schneider, Bill Clarke, Jim Berlin, Karen Lapps, Priscilla Sprague, Hu Shaffer, Frank McMullen, Lara Upton

The meeting was called to order at 7:01PM by Chairwoman Lisa Hanrahan. Bill Clarke provided the devotion and opening prayer.

Finance Report: Jeff Taylor presented the financial report and an update regarding the sale of the Hinton Avenue Church property. Jeff reports that overall giving is down somewhat when compared to budgeted, but the church remains in very good financial condition. See reports provided in the pre-meeting email. He reported some changes in the Hinton Avenue building sale. The offer is now all cash (for \$1.5 million) thus no mortgage will be required. This new information has been reviewed and approved by the Property Committee, the Trustees, and the Church Council. The plan was also reviewed by the District Board of Church Location and Building (DBCLB), but they are not yet comfortable with the valuation and original terms (now improved by the removal of a mortgage necessity). A recent site visit was completed by committee members who saw firsthand how much work is needed to repair the building. Additional documentation of needed repairs will be summarized and presented to the DBCLB at their next meeting and they will ask for a vote at that time.

Ministry Reports: Lara Upton reports “a lot going on” with the children and young adults. This activity is readily apparent whenever you are in the building. She wants to thank everyone for approving Maria Plantz’s internship for the summer. Maria has dived in headfirst and is working in Sunday School classes and the Children’s message on Sunday mornings. She has attended various ministry roles, including going on visitations with Pastor Alex. The youth group is joining up regularly with the group from Aldersgate UMC over the summer for various outdoor and, when necessary, indoor activities this summer. The tweens helped out with Bread and Blessings this week by serving the meals.

Cindy Remington reported on Nurture and Outreach committees. The plant sale raised a little over \$2000.00 for the Nurture team that has also been busy assisting in the planning for Vacation Bible School in July. Outreach is resuming its ASP work this year. A group of youth and adults will be traveling to Huntington, WV June 25 – July 1 to assist in making homes “warmer, safer, and dryer.” We were also able to provide registration for 100 Charlottesville kids to attend the YMCA by donating \$1000 to their Sponsor a Teen Summer program and, also provided everything needed for 33 children to attend “All God’s Children Camp.” The Nurture group is also looking forward to plan dates for PACEM this winter.

Trustees Report: Charles Kidd and Guy Moffatt provided an excellent recap of options and costs for renovations for our church kitchen. The bottom-line question to be answered is whether to proceed with a commercial kitchen or scale back to a warming kitchen. There is a significant difference in both performance and cost for these options. A warming kitchen is, as it sounds, is a place where any cooking that spreads grease or smoke in the air is not allowed. You can have ovens and cooktops but cannot fry or cook anything that generates smoke. It requires a letter from the church to the city building inspectors and health department committing that the church will not allow frying or cooking anything that will generate grease or smoke. This would be very difficult to enforce on our part.

A commercial style kitchen has cooktops and ovens and requires a commercial hood (already in place). Our current kitchen would require a new exhaust fan and a make-up air fan using ductwork from the existing stainless steel hood. The hood with a fire suppression system we have already in place is good for this type of facility. Any type of cooking is allowed in a commercial kitchen. The proposed renovations would also replace the ceiling, floor, and cabinets and renovations to the pantry area. Frequent users request a dishwasher. The cost is about \$122,000 for all this work to be completed, *excluding a commercial dishwasher*.

The commercial kitchen will meet health department standards but will not be periodically inspected by the health department. For that reason, food prepared in our kitchen can only be used within our building. It cannot be cooked in our kitchen and taken to other facilities. This is the status of our current kitchen.

Another request is for a handicap accessible restroom to be provided on the Fellowship Hall level of the building. A review of building plans shows the best location for this is in the corner closest to the pantry area, since this is where water and sewer lines are most accessible. The anticipated cost is around \$50,000.

Charles and Guy requested a vote regarding commercial vs warming kitchen. Guy made a motion to proceed with a commercial kitchen and Dave Wheatley seconded it. The motion was passed with 14 ayes and 1 abstention.

Pastor's Remarks: Alex reports 24 new members and 2 baptisms since the beginning of the year. There is another new member class planned for August. On August 13 our new bishop will be preaching. August 12, 2017, a terrible day in Charlottesville history, will be remembered again this year. The focus is the progress that has been made over the past 6 years. "Beloved Community Cville" has created a series of short videos on sites related to Charlottesville's racial history. These are publicly available for viewing online at <https://www.belovedcommunity-cville.com/> . There is also a book of essays "Standing Up to Hate," edited by Michael Cheuk, and written by members of the Charlottesville Clergy Collective. This is available to order online at <https://goodfaithmedia.org/product/standing-up-to-hate-by-michael-cheuk/>.

Other news:

A new CFUMC logo has been created – stay tuned for “merch!”

The church softball team is in the playoffs! We were not permitted to ask how many teams there were!

Several church members were able to attend a “Reconciling Ministries Network” workshop. Alex reported that the process is being refined to make the process smoother, shorter and less daunting.

Our next meeting is July 17 and we are tentatively planning to skip the August meeting.

Cindy Remington moved, and Priscilla Sprague seconded to close the meeting. Votes were unanimous and the meeting was ended at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Priscilla Sprague, Secretary.