

Flossmoor Community Church

Governing Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 3, 2019

7:00 pm – FCC Family Room

Members Present: Stephanie Byrd, Anna Carvalho, Rebecca Courington, Sharon Dobben, Christian Kneeland, Kim Lipe, Bob Norby, Phyliss Royster, Vanessa Richardson, Terese Thrall, Jennifer Wojcikowski
Members Excused: Rick Hanzelin, Lois Glasgow

Staff: Betsy Hanzelin, Jaime Ford, Fred Lyon

OPENING PRAYER (Bob)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from October 22, 2019 – Approved

TREASURER'S REPORT (Bob) Positive net income this month; income exceeded expenses by about \$14,000. Two highlights – caught up in the month with pledges. Sharing fees for the Community House and the Church have already hit this year's revenue projection. Projecting next month to be strong as well.

PASTOR'S REPORT (Fred)

Fred discussed upcoming changes in personnel and plans, particularly concerning the youth program. Alison Billings' last day will be December 15th. Also continuing to look for a Director for the Praise Team.

NEW BUSINESS

Stewardship (Fred in lieu of Rick)

Update – 117 pledges out of 170; based upon year over year trends, it looks like we will get beyond \$600,000

Pastor Search Committee (Anna in lieu of Chris Dolan)

Update – The Search Committee reports that they have strong candidates, and there are about 12 in the pipeline. Governing Board members discussed the pastoral transition process and Fred discussed current best practices in interim ministry, emphasizing that churches are always “in transition” – staff turnovers, fluctuations in budgets, etc. Fred provided a sheet of “prompters” regarding Long Range Planning for us to come back to at the January meeting. The sheet was called “How Do We Figure Out Our Congregation's Identity?” Governing Board members walked through the prompts to clarify them. Prompts included: Three words that describe our church are..., An important characteristic about our church is..., An important event in the life of our church is..., A time when we were most tested was...; The thing I most appreciate about our church is..., The thing I most appreciate about being a interfaith church is..., Something that's never made sense to me about our church is..., One thing I've always wondered about us is..., Three things we must continue to do are..., Three things we could stop doing are..., Fred encouraged the Governing Board members to go through each of these individually, and then at the January meeting on the 21st do this with the Long Range Planning Committee.

Faith in Action (Kim)

Action: Approve donation recommendations
\$23,600 to 8 organizations:

- Bethel Family Center \$6800 Sponsorship of Job Training Program for youth.
- Jones Memorial Center \$4000 Funding for “When I Grow Up” program for children
- Lighthouse LGBTQ \$1300 \$600 directly to Lighthouse for speaker fees for upcoming programs, \$700 held for FCC sponsorship of Pride Party and tent at event.
- Respond Now \$2000 Purchase of 2 stand up freezers (#1 priority on their wish list)
- Restoration Ministries \$1500 Continue costs associated with ESL program
- Sheilah Doyle Foundation \$2000 Scholarship fund for children to attend camp
- South Suburban Family Shelter\$5000 SSFS has requested funds at combat budget deficit due to decreased funding.
- Preemptive Love \$1000 Emergency Aid, to provide on the ground assistance to people caught in crisis in Northern Syria.

Governing Board voted to approve distribution of the grants to these organizations; Preemptive Love is new, so is Sheila Doyle, the rest are ones we’ve given money to before; we are looking to cultivate more of a relationship by doing more hands on activities – so not just treasure, but time too. Took a voice vote, action was approved.

Nominating Committee (Terese)–

Three names were brought forward for approval to serve on standing committees:

Karen Hoag and Val Litchfield agreed to serve on the FCC Preschool Committee, and Gailyn Howell agreed to serve on Diaconate.

These nominations were approved

OLD BUSINESS

PADS (Anna)

Reminder to those who have signed up to serve 12/29:

5:45 to 8 pm: Glasgow, Dobben, Lipe, Richardson

8 to 11 pm: Carvalho (2)

5-7:30 am: Norby

**STILL NEED THE FOLLOWING SLOTS FILLED:*

11pm-3am (Need 2)

3-7am (Need 2)

5-7:30am (Need 1)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Showoff was very successful; they brought in over \$3,000, and Tito’s has committed to matching it. Blue Island Brewery has agreed to serve and sponsor next year

VISIONING (Goodies and good cheer)

Please bring a holiday treat to share or a donation for PADS guests.

Items most needed: men’s white athletic socks, size large and Extra-Large boxer shorts

Anna asked us to think about Christmas/Advent - to take a few minutes to think about what Advent and Christmas mean to us; Members considered Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love

CLOSING PRAYER (Kim)

ADJOURN

Board of Christian Education January 2020

Children's Ministry Leslie Maxie

Highlights:

- Pageant was a huge success. We practiced all month and the kids were wonderful.
- Christmas party following the pageant, with parents, with a success as well. We had a great turn out and had some great fellowship time with parents, kids and teachers.
- Instant nativity went well. Kids enjoyed it and everything stayed well organized.
- First week of Sunday school was great, great attendance, kids had a great time
- First week of bible class went well, too.

Hopes:

- Blizzard Blast is Jan 24, hoping to have a nice turn out and enough volunteers
- Bibles will be handed out Feb 9th, hoping all goes well with the class and the kids learn a lot and appreciate the bible more
- WooHOO Wednesdays start back up first week of February, hoping for the Lord to bless me with the energy and creativity to pull a few more off this year.

Youth Ministry Betsy Hanzelin

Highlights:

- Youth Ministries began youth groups for 2020 on Sunday, January 20! Two lay advisors have been added to the Leadership Team, to replace Allison and Marc Billings. Dodi Wians is working with Tribes (Jr. high) and Julie Johnson is working with Quest (sr. high/confirmation). Both Dodi & Julie are returning to Youth Ministries, having served previously as Lay Advisors.
- The addition of the 6th graders this year has been a blessing to the Tribes Group. That blessing has also meant that we were squeezed in our room! Tribes has now moved to Acts2Crew (thanks to the flexibility of Leslie Maxie) and is excited to spread out and use this new space.
- I am busy planning upcoming World Religions Retreat and trying to enlist parents to help with transportation and meals for the weekend (Jan. 24-26).

Hopes:

- Our Search Committee finds the new DYM soon!

Adult Education Jessica Groen

Highlights:

- Betsy formatted and printed out the Winter/Spring Adult Ed flyer during the first week of the year, so this was available in print and online by the first Sunday of January. This informs members and guests of all opportunities for Adult Education for the months of January through May.

- The Just Mercy Connect event co-planned by the Adult Education Committee and Board of Congregational Connections was a success, with a couple dozen participants going to the movie and gathering at the Groen house after for conversation and snacks. The discussion was led by Kate Saunders, (Board of Congregational Connections member) who teaches the book to high school students, and Isabella VanderWoude, a high school student who has studied the book.
- Pastor Fred has begun his Wednesday evening Bible study on Scripture passages which illustrate the political nature of the scriptures.
- Trina's class on the book Holy Envy is continuing, with continued healthy attendance numbers.
- The individual drop-in classes continue to be a welcome supplement to the multi-week courses, with around 6-12 participants each week.

Hopes:

- We are hoping for continued strong participation in Sunday and Wednesday classes.
- We are anticipating great discussions for the book club book Born a Crime, offered on Martin Luther King Jr Day weekend, as well as through the topics and books which will be studied in February for Black History month. There will be no drop-in classes offered during February to encourage more participants to attend the Black History Month educational courses.

Weekday Preschool Dallas Collins

Highlights:

- December Holiday Parties were scheduled for 12/18 & 12/19
- Our teacher holiday party was also scheduled for 12/19 at noon off site
- We were lucky to have 2 weeks off for holiday break

Hopes:

- We had 6 children start the first week back in January- welcoming new families to Weekday is always a treat!
- January/February enrichments begin 1/14-1/16. We are offering Tumble bears, Little Doodlers & Health club in the afternoon this session- all are full with a small waitlist.
- Planning is underway for our first "Donuts with Dads" on February 13 & 14, the WPPA is providing sweet treats that morning. We are also planning for our "Family Fun Event" February 22 upstairs- we have a yoga instructor, Art 4 Soul for hand tiles, and a folk song signer lined up for entertainment.

Submitted by Rebecca Courington, Chair

Personnel Committee January 2020

Highlights:

- The Praise Director position is still open. Personnel will continue to work with Staff, the Worship and Arts Chair, and other Governing Board members to facilitate finding/hiring a new director or help with personnel matters should our current Praise model be restructured.
- The Director of Youth Ministries position is still open. The job has been posted in several more places. A sub-committee has been formed and is scheduled to meet to discuss ways to expand our

search, discuss possible candidates, and to discuss the timing of hiring someone. Betsy Hanzelin has temporarily taken on the administrative duties of the Youth position in addition to her Congregational Connection duties and is currently working full-time.

Hopes:

- Continuing discussions of the best ways to support our staff through uncertainty with Pastor Fred's departure; Ongoing review of the Employee manual; Staff Reviews upcoming.

Submitted by Sharon Dobben, Chair

Board of Faith in Action January 2020

Highlights:

- Met January 14 and shared thank you letters from Respond Now, Preemptive Love, and By the Hand.
- Phil Courington has scheduled a hands-on Outreach opportunity on Monday, Feb. 17 (President's Day) at Feed My Starving Children in Aurora. This project is open to children (5 & up) and all youth and adults. FMSC creates food packs that literally feed starving children around the world.
- Planned a Spring Food Drive for Sunday, March 15.
- Began discussion of Easter Offering recipients.

Submitted by Betsy Hanzelin, Staff Liaison

Properties Committee January 2020

Highlights:

- New keypad security lock on office entrance, allowing greater control of building use during non-business hours
- Music wing roof completed
- Gutter work still in process
- Signs ordered for Travers, Office entrance and Community House
- Crazy lights put up and taken down by our amazing properties committee

Submitted by Jamie Ford, Staff Liaison

"No Report"

Board of Congregational Connections, per Betsy Hanzelin, co-staff liaison
Diaconate Board, per Phyliss Royster, chair