

## **SUMC CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES**

### **JANUARY 19, 2019**

The following were in attendance: Scott Dodson, Lou Collins, Adam Barth, Merle Epperson, John Freshwater, Pam Castellano, Gay Williams, David Wilmoth, Andrew Harper, Carol Ferry, Susan Fulp, Lisa Potts, Nancy Harris, Bonnie Bihary, Yana Frantz, Mel Guss, Marie Hurst.

Everyone was asked to sign in and pick up the Leadership Training Handout for the meeting.

Pastor Scott opened the meeting with prayer, everyone shared celebrations and then each person introduced themselves to the group.

#### **HOW TO RUN A MEETING**

Pastor Scott began the training with information on “How to Run a Meeting.” Vital points were covered and attendees asked questions and made comments pertinent to their specific committees.

#### **CONSENSUS AND COVENANT**

The United Methodist Church uses the “Consensus Model” to vote on issues during our meetings. This gives everyone a voice to share the pros and cons they have on an issue in a respectful and responsible manner. A sheet describing this model was in the handout.

Everyone was supplied with a copy of the “Church Council Covenant” and asked to become familiar with the document. All Church Council members were asked to check their job descriptions.

An updated copy of those currently serving SUMC-2019 was given out. This information details who is chairing a committee and those serving on those committees. It was revised on December 19, 2018.

A 7-minute break was given for everyone to have some refreshments and get ready for the next part of the training.

## **BUDGET CHANGES APPROVAL**

Pastor Scott deferred to Carol Ferry, our Finance Officer, to share some necessary changes to our 2019 budget. Carol shared those highlighted changes from the handout. Members asked questions and a vote of consensus was taken and approved to accept the SUMC 2019 Budget with changes.

## **GOALS FOR OUR CHURCH**

The next item on the agenda was to set 3 goals for the church. Pastor Scott shared some basic ideas for those goals and after some discussion the following were agreed upon by the members:

- 1- Rebuild the structure of the church
- 2- Increase attendance
- 3- Improve communication

## **SHOULD WE HAVE ANOTHER JOEL TEAM?**

Pastor Scott asked the group if they felt we should have a “vision casting” in lieu of all of the decisions facing our church and the Methodist Church as a whole. This process would entail having another Joel Team which would meet from May to August to research and share information/data with the Church Council as to how they should be directing the focus of the church. The Joel Team would consist of 15 members including the pastor and they would meet approximately 8 times. The members of this team would be selected by the pastor or may volunteer to serve.

## **INFORMATION ABOUT REBUILDING AND OUR PATH FORWARD**

John Freshwater, co-chairman of the Trustees, shared that as far as our church building itself, we have 3 areas of concern: 1) the sacristy; 2) the lower level of Building 2; and 3) the parsonage. We have already applied for a \$500,000.00 loan and a Small Business Loan, which before we can get this one there are several issues required in the application process to consider.

UMCOR will send its first work team to our church on January 26, 2019. They will be staying in the Assembly Hall.

The church has to hire an engineer who will need to survey the area in Building 2 where the disaster relief workers would be staying. John has spoken with an engineer who is willing to do this work and see what would need to be done to get it up to code. We need to have this report to share with the Conference in order for them to proceed with their plans to renovate that

area. It was voted by consensus to pay the engineer up to \$3,500.00 to do this work and provide us with a detailed report on Building 2.

We will also need to work with a fire protection engineer to make sure we have the proper commercial/residential classification for this area in Building 2.

Pastor Scott asked the group if we should plan some sort of information sharing for the members of our church. It was decided to first, put a brief note in the bulletin letting our members know that they will be receiving a letter in the mail with information on our current building and finance situation. This will give them about 2 weeks to read and review the information before coming to a spaghetti dinner on a Wednesday evening in the Assembly Hall where Pastor Scott and others will share information and answer questions from the members.

### **FUTURE MEETINGS**

Pastor Scott asked the group what they thought about “stacking” our church meetings. After some discussion, it was decided to try the following schedule:

The Trustees would meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month.

The SPRC would meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month.

The Finance Committee would meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month.

The Church Council would meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7pm.

Pastor Scott closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Hurst