

BONHOMME PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
14820 Conway Rd., Chesterfield, MO
Stated Meeting of the Session
February 20-21, 2018

Moderator: Rev. Don Everts
Clerk of Session: Jeffrey S. Russell

Place: Board Room
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Ruling Elders Present: Mike Boland, Bob Buchanan, Pam Douthit, Steve Ecker, Jeff Erkert, Lisa Hartshorn, Cris Heffernan, Helen Hume, Jim Kilby, Scott Martin, John Steffen, De Feltz

Teaching Elders Present: Rev. Phil Hargrove, Rev. Don Everts, Rev. Tom Hobson, Rev. Chris Macky

Staff and Others Present: AmyRuth Bartlett, Lynn Packwood, John Benda, John Hilhouse

CALL TO ORDER:

Following a dinner and devotional time, the meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. and a quorum was declared.

SPECIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES:

- A. Church Planting: Chris Macky presented an update on church planting and presented a motion to approve members of the church planting oversight commission as follows: Cris Heffernan, Steve Ecker, Andy Seers, Erica Kokal and John Hall. Rev. Macky also discussed various strategic documents for implementation of church planting as well as a church planting proposal to be presented to the Session in March. The Session discussed the report and Rev. Macky responded to questions.
- B. Budget Task Force: Rev. Hargrove reminded the Session of the expected budget gap and the Session's decision to form a Task Force comprising the Budget and Finance and Personnel Commissions to address the issue. He noted that there had also been discussions with the Stewardship Ministry. John Hilhouse spoke to the budget issues, noting that the Church faced an expense problem, not a revenue problem. He discussed the successful stewardship campaign and the Church's lack of debt. He noted that expenses were expected to exceed revenues by \$225,000 during 2018 and that the Church lacked adequate reserves. He noted that personnel costs represented a significant portion of the budget and exceeded church averages by 6-7%, leading to his suggestion to focus on cost containment. He also reported on stewardship trends and ageing of the congregation that would likely lead to additional budget shortfalls in future years.

John Green reported on the Task Force's review of budget allocations, its decision not to reduce the allocation to missions, and the relatively fixed costs of maintaining the buildings and grounds.

Mike Boland then offered to present the recommendations of the Task Force.

Jim Kilby moved for the Session to enter into an executive session, with Jeffrey Russell to moderate. Rev. Hargrove discussed the potential conflicts associated with teaching elders and staff participating in budget discussions. The motion was seconded, discussed and passed. Guests and staff left the meeting, and the Session continued its consideration of the Task Force report in executive session.

At 12:10 a.m. on Wednesday, February 21, 2018, the Session voted to adjourn and to continue the Stated Meeting on Thursday, February 22, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The Session reconvened on Thursday, February 22, 2018, a quorum being present. The meeting opened with prayer. The Session discussed Rev. Hobson's position under ECO polity.

Mr. Erkert moved that the Session return to executive session. The motion was seconded and passed. The Session entered into executive session for further discussion of the Task Force report. At 10:34 p.m., the Session moved out of executive session.

Mr. Ecker moved to adopt a budget that includes the Task Force recommendations as described in the attachment, hereto. The motion was seconded and passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the January 16, 2018, Stated Meeting of Session were approved, as corrected.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A. PROCEDURAL ITEMS:

Upon the request of Rev. Hargrove, the Session approved the following baptism: Judah Matthews, son of Buzz and Jenny Matthews.

It was reported that between January 2018 and February 20, 2018, communion was served to 320 persons at scheduled Traditional and 272 persons at scheduled Contemporary Worship Services, and that between January 12, 2018 and February 20, 2018, 2 shut-in communion services were held.

B. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE:

Mr. Russell reported on correspondence regarding Mrs. Fiona Grimshaw's addition to the rolls of Newcastle Presbyterian Church.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.


NEW BUSINESS:

As a result of the theft of the Church building's downspouts, a motion was made to accept a proposal, not to exceed \$19,610, to replace the downspouts. The motion was seconded and passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned, on motion, on February 22, 2018 at 11:00 p.m. and was closed with prayer, peace and harmony prevailing.

Approved by Session: April 17, 2018



Jeffrey S. Russell, Clerk of Session