

Bonhomme Presbyterian Church
Minutes of Regularly Scheduled Session Meeting
April 20, 2021
6:00 PM in the Commons

Minutes of the Meetings

Those Attending:

Jenny Brown, Robby Cella, John Green, Steve Lucas, Chad Schrieber, Jenni Stecher, Cliff VanIttersum, Mary Bruning, Mary Oldfield, Steve Cox, Andy Seers, Dave Moore, Jim Keim, Fred Breitenwischer.

Opening the Meeting:

Following prayer, a quorum was declared, and the meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Pastor Dave Moore.

- **Devotion:** Paster Dave Moore shared some of the material from the ECO course he attended last Tuesday, April 6.
- **Elder Chad Schriber** – discussed what is happening in Modern Worship presenting a video of a very special choral offering.
- **Reviewed and make adjustments to the Structural Changes, based on congregational feedback.** It was decided to have 12 Deacons during the next year.
- **Initial Conversation about starting ministries to those speaking Spanish, Mandarin, Korean, and those from India living in our community.** Pastor Dave Moore related: “I see this as a start to a conversation. The Session needs to be aware that we have members leading ESL classes using the Bible to teach English to those speaking Mandarin. We have Koreans attending, including a couple that are pastors and would like to come under the leadership of the Session Thomas Hernandez and I are discussing possibilities for ministry to those speaking Spanish, including a large trailer park not far from Bonhomme. And Pfizer has brought many residents from India into our community. I can see this first part of the conversation taking about 15 minutes, with assignments and follow up.”
- **Session documents and Policies:** Make all the information we have available to Session that made up the “Rules of the Session” from 2011, along with the recommended packet from ECO explaining how the Session establishes policies. **Pastor Nominating Committee:** Make all of the information we have available to Session including all of the resources from ECO, along with Chad’s notes.

Discussed having a called Session meeting to discuss the “Rules of the Session” and the PNC. At the called meeting, we should devote about one hour to the PNC conversation, and another hour to the conversation about Session guidelines and policies. NOTE: the 2011 guidelines and ECO’s recommendations are quite different. We may need to have a team draft something that can help direct and guide the conversation.

- **Walsh Property:** John Green made some recommendations for the Session about using the property to house Jake McKinnon, and the potential for further development as a place where interns might also live. Specifically, it was asked that Session approve the allocation of \$6,000 from reserves, twelve months of rent at \$500 per month for a total of \$6,000 and approve to campaign for additional contributions from the congregation to perform work in the Walsh house to meet the minimum requirements requested by Jake McKinnon and his fiancée.
- **Modify Membership Rolls:** Session requested that the membership rolls be updated by the staff for Session action.
- **Elder Cliff van Ittersum** - requested that Session approves the following members to serve on the HRC for the period June 1, 2021 to May 30, 2022.

Steve Cox and Mary Bruning as Elders and Don Guenther, Nancy Kopsky, Rita Peterson and Lori Shoemaker as Congregant members. The Sr. Pastor and the Executive Director of Operations serve as Ex-Officio members.

- Executive Director John Green advised the Session that he will be retiring as of May 30, 2021.

Motions Decisions

- It was decided to have 12 Deacons during the next year.
- Pastor Dave Moore and Clerk are to establish a called meeting to discuss the “Rules of the Session” and the PNC.
- Session requests that the membership rolls be updated by the staff for Session action.
- It was decided to ask the congregation to approve a reduction from 36 to 12 Deacons for the year beginning June 1, 2021.
- Fred Breitenwischer moved and Jenny Brown seconded a motion that Session approve the allocation of \$6,000 from reserves, twelve months of rent at \$500 per month for a total of \$6,000 and approve a campaign for additional contributions from the congregation to perform work in the Walsh house estimated to cost \$25,000. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

- Elder Cliff Van Ittersum moved and Elder Steve Ecker seconded a motion that Session approve the following members to serve on the HRC for the period June 1, 2021 to May 30, 2022.

Steve Cox and Mary Bruning as Elders and Don Guenther, Nancy Kopsky, Rita Peterson and Lori Shoemaker as Congregant members. The Sr. Pastor and the Executive Director of Operations serve as Ex-Official members.

The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

- Elder Cliff Van Ittersum moved and Elder Mary Oldfield Seconded a Motion to approve: Minutes of Regularly Scheduled Session Meeting 03-16-21 and Minutes of the Called Session Meeting 03-30-21. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Closing the Meeting:

The meeting was closed in prayer and adjourned by the Moderator.

Submitted Respectfully:



Stephen H. Lucas
Clerk of the Session
May 16, 2021