

Excelsior United Methodist Church
Leadership Team Minutes
April 25, 2023

Attending: Brooke Heerwald Steiner, Bill Lester, Julie Newell, Jennifer Brady-Johnson, Jim Stromberg, Phil Pulitzer, Tyler Cronk
Guest: Lynn Hughes

Welcome Team Exercise led by Julie- Each team member shared where they would like to travel if time and money were no object?

Communications - Jill presented minutes and requested motion to approve. Bill Lester moved to approve the minutes; Tyler Cronk seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Building update - Lynn Hughes. We have extra carpet squares since the sanctuary carpet had to be pulled up and replaced due to batch color inconsistencies. Would like to use the extra carpet in the lower narthex, hallways and ramp into fellowship hall. Before we do that, we need to get asbestos testing done to see if abatement will be needed. Testing cost is approximately \$300. Team approved. Depending on findings, will move forward pulling up old carpet and replacing.

Furniture & Chairs – Vendor has provided pictures of the parts for our chairs but has not begun construction. They also have not started on the alter furniture. Lynn and team will continue to follow up.

HVAC units should arrive in late May.

A table for the conference room and children's room has been purchased with funds coming from memorials. These should arrive in about 1 month.

Trustees – Jim Stromberg

Team has been meeting with Steve to learn about the church facility requirements before he retires. Plan on two more meetings. Will create three lists: projects to get done, recurring tasks, and AV priorities.

Steve provided sealcoating quotes. Team decided to put this on hold until 2024 due to budget constraints. Will hold these proposals until next year.

Plan to jack up the cement outside the main doors that are sinking. This is a tripping hazard.

Steve highlighted that a new staff person or volunteer(s) will be needed in late August to stream Sunday services due to Avery Greely going off the college.

Playground – May 9th is next meeting of this non-profit. Have not signed lease agreement yet but have permission from the conference to do so. They have also confirmed that we don't need additional

insurance to cover the park. Discussed the need to be sure responsibilities for maintenance, clean up, etc. are clarified in the lease. Construction now estimated for spring 2024.

Jeff Johnson has requested permission to pay for and plant a memorial honey locust tree on the grounds. Jeff will be responsible for installation and maintenance of the tree for the first year. Team approved.

Jim reported that the crew who assists with Wed. afternoon ICA food give away is now working on cleaning, painting, and installing new lighting in the downstairs youth room. Trustee reps and Brooke approved this work. They have installed new circuits so they can house a new fridge and freezer in the room. ICA is paying for the units. Half of electrical costs will be covered from the ICA account. The remainder will come out of a Trustee account. This led to a discussion on when building updates should be charged to a ministry account vs. a trustee account.

Jim suggested the formation of a subcommittee to make a short term and long-term building plan. Team would include both ministry and trustee representatives. He will take the lead on this. Team approved the action.

Brooke update –

- Easter week Ecumenical services were a fun change. Hope to continue this relationship.
- Many excited about the August summer ecumenical service-in-the-park
- Brooke confirmed that the grant was approved and we will have a 1/month spiritual director starting in the fall.
- Sermon writing group is progressing. They will take turns preaching in June of this year.
- There is enough interest to move ahead with a trip to Guatemala with Common Hope from Jan 7-14, 2024. (10 people interested from our church.) Team will build a house. Church will pay for Brooke to go. All others pay their own airfare and \$1000. Trip will be open to ages 14 and up.
- Brooke requested approval to apply for a Lily Grant. This is a grant that would pay for her to take an extended sabbatical in 2025. She needs to apply by March 2024. Grant will cover her costs for any travel and any expenses incurred by the church due to her absence. Team agreed that she should apply for the grant.

Finance - Tyler –

Tyler reported that we are running close to budget for the first quarter. He plans to address the budget deficit in the summer Shorelines. No movement on possibly renting the annex for furniture storage for His House. He plans to work with Bev to update signatory on all church accounts.

Ministries – Jennifer

Jennifer attended the anti-racism committee meeting and is working to get connected with the different committees so she can get updates or attend meetings.

Next Meetings:

Tues, May 23 at 6:30 PM

Tues, June 27 at 6:30 PM

Tues, August 8 at 6:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Jewell