

Burke Community Church
Council of Elders Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

Discussion Leader: Dave DuHadway

Attendees:

Ben Allen (Elder), Bob Ashton (Elder), Marty Baker (Pastor/Elder), Steve Knight (Elder), Dave DuHadway (Elder), George Lare (Elder), Dave McKernan (Elder), Paul Schmidt (Elder)

The meeting opened with prayer at 6:35 p.m.

I. Business

Agenda:

Discussion Lead	Topic
Council	Approve minutes of July 18, 2020 elder meeting
Council	Review status for new building dedication. Review events for Oct 11-13
Paul Schmidt	Status of DTS discussions, Construction Liaison report, Land Use. Renovation of old bldg. Parking expansion
Bob Ashton	Elder Off-site – Any follow-up items
Ben Allen	Elder Nominating Committee (ENC) update
Dave DuHadway	COVID education panel
Dave McKernan	Budget status
Dave McKernan	Safety Team update
Ben Allen	Interview Process – baptism follow-up
Pastor Marty	Staff update

- a. **Minutes.** Elders agreed with the notes of the 14-15 August 2020 Council of Elders (COE) off-site meeting. Additional actions (4,5,6) were added.
- b. **Building Dedication plans.** Prayer locations have been identified for the Prayer Walk on Friday evening, with elders to pray at each location. Tours are set up for Saturday morning from 9 – noon. The Night of Worship is scheduled for Saturday evening with ice cream afterward. In case of rain (20%), the Youth Auditorium and café will be available. Sunday will have three services (8, 9:30, 11) with appropriate social distancing. Sunday 13 Sept is also the 45th anniversary of BCC. There will be a VIP room in one of the new classrooms.
- c. **DTS Status and Building Update.** Fairfax County (FFX) Board of Supervisors appears to be positioning themselves to ask BCC to formally request a variance to receive permission to host DTS. Hosting will likely not be approved under our current Land Use agreement. The issue seems to be that an outside university should have separate authorization. The COE agrees to hire a Land Use attorney to evaluate

the case and to file with FFX, if it makes sense to do so. Alternative arrangements may lead DTS to establish their offices off-site at a business location. BCC may still be able to host the library and Bible classes (to be determined). The COE agrees to continue to pursue some or all DTS use on the BCC campus. Paul Schmidt to contact an attorney and proceed. Separately, the remodeling of the old sanctuary is underway.

- d. **Off-site Follow-up.** See item 1.
- e. **ENC Update.** The COE gave the Elder Nominating Committee (ENC) permission to increase in size by adding an additional person to the ENC. Confirmation will occur at the November congregational meeting election. The ENC is continuing to evaluate candidates for elder, to be elected at the May 2021 congregational meeting.
- f. **COVID Support.** The COE discussed creating a panel that could provide guidance to the BCC staff on church events and plans. The panel would be formed of BCC members with medical qualifications and understanding of the government guidelines. The COE shared a concern that individual members could be motivated to vary from government guidelines, and then how should the staff respond. Action to Dave DuHadway to follow-up with Steffani Mears and Michael Coffey to determine whether the assistance would be helpful.
- g. **Budget.** Dave McKernan and Steve Knight have met with Steffani Mears as the 2021 budget is being built. There are factors that could cause the 2021 budget to be higher than 2020. In response to COVID and received giving in 2020, the COE asked Dave and Steve to monitor any increases and return on 19 September with an update. An action was taken to save the 2020 budget in Dropbox.
- h. **Safety Team.** The team has lost several volunteers from the team and needs to recruit replacements.
- i. **Interview Process.** The COE agreed to add a list of questions for the membership interview to Dropbox (action to Dave DuHadway). “How do you know that you are going to heaven?” is a larger question than “is baptism required?” The COE is unanimously supportive of the BCC Statement of Faith, stating unity in essentials, and liberty in non-essentials. Christian baptism, consistent with Christ’s commandment in Matt 28:19, is a requirement for BCC membership.
- j. **Staffing Update.** We look forward to Dave DuHadway joining the BCC staff on or about 1 October 2020.

II. Other Business

- a. A new employee letter for Mr Ben Hill was approved and signed.
- b. Informal notice was received that additional hardware may be required to support the audio-visual equipment in the new building. No details were provided.

Following a closing prayer, the Council adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ben Allen,
Clerk of the Council of Elders