

Central Board Meeting Minutes
December 15 , 2020
via Zoom
6:30 - 8:30 PM

Proof Notice: Meeting was announced in the Spire

Those in attendance: Dale Miller Bouton, David Brandt, Dale Earl, Andrea Trefry, Kathy Taylor, Doug Marquart, Lauren Swiniuch, Rev. Peter Preble

Action Items

- Approved 11/10/20 Minutes
- Approved 12/02/20 Minutes
- Pre approval of PPP Loan if it becomes available. Dave Varga has authorization to apply if and when it becomes available.
- Voted to give 90 day notice beginning January 1, 2021 to Diana for moving out of the Parsonage.
- Voted to authorize purchase of laptop for Peter.

Discussion Items

Update from Rev. Preble

- Technical issues on Sunday highlight the need for a paid technician to assist with the streaming of the service. Try to make a connection with BevCam.
- Limit comments about technical issues during the service as it distracts from the service. Need to explain to congregation that the comments can't always be addressed during the service. How best to inform people about the comments in a kind way.
- Communication issues continue to be a problem. People often hear things differently when the Pastor says them and the importance of having him at meetings .
- Christmas Eve service will be pre-recorded after church on Sunday, December 20 so Peter will not attend the Budget Meeting after church.
- Wendy will provide a Blue Christmas service that will air on December 23
- Disagree with decision to not have memorial flowers for December 20 service. The goal should be to have the services look as normal as possible
- Discussion about Call Agreement and how expenses were paid - need to make sure the procedure is clear for reimbursement and the salary package for the new minister
- Nursery Attendant is not needed for the foreseeable future
- Search Committee has met several times and is making good progress. Profile may be ready by mid to late January and will be reviewed by the Central Board prior to being sent out.
- Communication and Team Responsibilities- How to improve

- Need to improve communications with our Teams and make sure all are aware of decisions. Under the current situation, communication is breaking down.
- Strengthen communication with the Central Board and working teams. Need to make sure that decisions are communicated with Liaison to the Central Board.
- Each liaison should meet with the team and clarify decision making and policy. Clarify tasks and role of each team.
- Review Input from 12/13 Forward Chat
 - Make sure it is clearly advertised as a Forward Chat
 - Investigate Parsonage as part of the package- what does the UCC Conference think? Peter has communicated the information about the Parsonage and the current thinking.
 - Some concern about high housing costs on the North Shore for a new minister
 - No effect on applicants with or without parsonage
- Prepare for Budget Meeting
 - Explain the burden of having a Parsonage and its upkeep on the congregation
 - Need to budget additional funds for maintenance if we keep it
 - Central Board has already voted to exclude the Parsonage from the package
- Plans for hiring CE Coordinator
 - Job description available from UCC. Entry level position based on salary and qualifications. UCC Certification required or working towards it
 - Who will interview? David Brandt and a parent perhaps
- Plans for selling the parsonage
 - Need to give official notice to Diana to determine when she needs to move
 - 90 days notice from January 1, 2021- voted 8-0
- AV Updates
 - Training continues but need to hire a part time person to help with the system.
 - BevCam conversations will continue.
 - UCC has some information and may be able to help and give advice in our hiring of technician.
- Feedback on Sunday Zoom Coffee Hours

- Need to resolve technical issues because Peter does not have a laptop that works in the church.
- Voted to authorize purchase of laptop for Peter. 7-0
- Keep the chats shorter- to about 30 minutes or so and more focused.

Next meeting : January 19, 2021