

Warwick Memorial United Methodist Church
38 Hoopes Road
Newport News, VA 23602

Minutes of the Leadership Team meeting held on January 15, 2017

Members present:

Carlos Liceaga, Team Leader
Ken Bradley, Lay Leader for Ministries
Gerry Mingee, Connect
Jim Cole, Evangelize
Josie Cole, Serve (Internal)
Linda McLawhorn, Worship (Sanctuary)
Sandy Marcuson, Trustees Co-Team Leader
Frank Blake, Trustees Co-Team Leader
Shaun Kelley, SPRC
Kerry Blazek, Finance
Pastor Gina Anderson-Cloud
Pastor Bert Cloud
Pastor Peggy Langille
Linda Brooks, Secretary

Other Attendees:

Nolan Reid, Finance
Leah Lively, Finance
Vanessa Sczesny, Finance
Jim Corliss, Stewardship
Henry Bennett, Endowment
Blair Gloss, SPRC

Welcome – Carlos called the meeting to order at 3:02 and welcomed new members.

Opening Prayer – Pastor Gina

Devotion – Carlos

Discussion Items:

a. Meeting was called because we received a gift and needed ideas on how best to use this gift. The gift is from Jean and Paul Lowe and consists of \$246,856.60 in stocks and bonds,

\$60,000 in cash, and \$2,000 in mutual funds for a total of \$308,856.60. There is also a letter from the trustee of the estate requesting some of the funds be used to install a covering over the door at the back of the sanctuary for those bringing in wheelchairs.

b. Carlos provided five items for discussion and possible funding as follows:

(1) Honor the Lowe's request for a covered awning for the sanctuary back door. Consensus is to have Trustees get cost estimate and plans to construct a permanent covered walkway that would include both the sanctuary and fellowship doors since this is the closest route to the sanctuary. This could be considered a capital expense and not part of apportionments—not a budget item.

(2) Fund any gap between estimated income and the needed 2017 budget requests, after a careful review of 2016 expenditures, funding streams and targeted plans consistent with church goals. Based on projections, there is about a \$160,000 shortfall if all programs are funded as requested. Nolan recommended funding apportionments at 100 percent and everything else at 83-85 percent of 2016 expenditures. Budget will be discussed at the meeting Thursday night. If you underspent, be prepared to justify if you're asking for the same amount or more. Recommended Associate Pastor be funded through the first half of 2018. Concern that if we fund the shortfall, people will be less likely to give if it doesn't appear there's a need. It was noted that this is a very generous church and people step up when there's a need, e.g., Associate Pastor, missions, etc. Need to analyze giving patterns and projections. Will discuss further on Thursday night.

(3) Purchase a large van (used or new, estimates range from \$25K to \$45K). Van would not only be used for youth programs but as transportation on Sunday mornings. Need to consider what Youth Ministry, Children's Ministry and other ministries could have done had we had a van. Trustees will gather information on purchase of one or two vans, cost of renting vans when needed, and projected van usage. Gerry will include cost of rental vans in his budget. Before a purchase plan is finalized, Trustees need to research the sales tax exemption in consideration of purchase of a van, so that we are clear on whether we are exempt or not, as this will effect the overall cost.

(4) Pay off \$20,862.55 loan from BFFC to OB to clear debt and contribute to 2017 debt retirement for the BFFC. BF pledges, estimated non-pledges and the \$21K would get us close to what we need. Consensus was to include this item with #2.

(5) Set aside remaining funds for use for mission, ministry or capital improvements as deemed appropriate by the leadership team, while conserving funds to help perpetuate the church goals of a) growing spiritually, b) increasing our work in missions, c) growing in numbers, with

focus on younger families with children and youth. Recommended investing any leftover funds into United Methodist Foundation CDs.

c. Carlos also suggested the Calling 21 Intern initiative discussed in the past but not funded. Peggy is required to take three weeks of training this summer. This intern could help with the summer lunch program in her absence, provide oversight for Hands Across the City, and get the young adult group started. Peggy would assume these duties when the internship was over. Having an intern in also consistent with our history of developing people for ministry. Cost is \$3,500. Request must be submitted by the end of the month. Consensus was to fund this item. Payment will be made to the conference under SPRC.

d. Need to determine how best to announce this gift to the congregation. Plaque should be included on tangible items. Plan should be provided to the Lowe family on how this money will be spent and when the gift will be dedicated. Need to celebrate this gift to encourage others to pledge part of their estate.

Closing Prayer – Pastor Bert

Meeting adjourned at 5:28.