



Board Meeting Minutes First Christian Church October 8, 2022, 10:00 am

1) OPENING ITEMS

- a) Call to Order / Establish Quorum (10:01 am Esther Devall, Eric Hays-Strom, Scott Hays-Strom, Karen Holmes, Kamy McKenzy-Shaw)
Excused: Ric Brightman, Sue Stefford-Grey, Paul Whitacre
Absent:
Present: Rev Richard Feyen
- b) Devotional Minute given by Scott – Last weekend was Pridefest and he noticed how brightly lit the booths were. This reminded him of the teaching “You’re the light of the world.” What is our light? The church’s love. We need to determine whether our light bring light or separation.
- c) Approval of Agenda:
- d) Approval of Minutes:
 - i) Board Meeting September 17, 2022
- e) Log email vote –
 - i) None

2) COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Technology Committee – Eric
 - He plans to start working on revisioning the web site with John S. and Bruce. In the meantime, the members of the board should research other church’s websites both in look and content to help in creation of our website, i.e. what is good or bad.
 - The lapel mic doesn’t work on zoom. We need to look into getting a different mic.
- b) Faith Action Committee – Paul W – No report
- c) Faith Development Committee – No report until further notice – this item will be removed from the agenda for now and can be returned later.
- d) Worship Committee – Eric –
 - A 7:00 Christmas eve service with traditional carols and lights is planned. There will not be a Christmas service, which is on Sunday.
 - A potluck to welcome Pastor Richard and his wife Pastor Peggy is scheduled on October 23rd
 - Thanksgiving Potluck – scheduled Nov 20th
 - Need an event committee to plan various events like potlucks. Will discuss below under new business with nominating committee.
- i) Attendance Report – Eric – We are staying on par with our averages.



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- e) Property Matters – Paul W – See the documents Paul sent prior to the meeting.
 - i) Other Electrical Installation
 - ii) Parlor Roof Repair – This was completed last Wednesday but it leaked again on Thursday when it rained.
Esther made a motion to hire double e electric to repair the roof conduits, Eric seconded. Approved.
 - f) Property Liaison – Karen – See report
 - g) Pastoral Relations Committee – Esther
The committee met with Rev. Richard. Everyone needs to understand what a progressive church is. Posters, explaining what a progressive church is, were purchased to display to help in understanding.
 - h) Pastor's Report – Rev. Richard Feyen – see the report. Since his duties have changed, he will be working more hours and taking off Mondays and Fridays, so he is available for Saturday and Sunday meetings.
 - i) Treasurer's Report – Bruce – September is a break even month and it is looking up.
 - j) Financial Secretary's Report – Eric –
 - September made it back into the black. He checks members' pledges and was surprised that the actual giving is at 110% of the pledge amount. There are some individuals who are giving more than pledged for the general fund. There is still a need for the maintenance/building fund.
 - We should start working on the 2023 pledges. Eric has the cards created but they are not quite ready to send out.
 - i) Stewardship – Esther –
 - Esther will give a talk to the congregation stressing the need for property maintenance.
 - On Sunday October 23rd Esther will start talking about income and expense in regard to stewardship.
 - The pledge cards will come out the beginning of November.
- 3) OLD BUSINESS:
- a) Follow up on Retreat ideas:
 - i) Convert Bridal Room to Meditation Space - Eric/Scott
 - ii) Bulletin board in Atrium – Karen
 - (1) The carpet is removed and the cork board for bulletin is installed.
 - (2) We will need to complete the cleaning and painting of the rest of the walls.
We plan to do this work in January 2023.



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- (3) The guesstimate for that work is: 5 gal paint - \$500, lift \$200/day - \$400, spackle - \$50
 - (4) I'm simply reporting this to the board in preparation for next year maintenance.
- b) Status of Jon Kessler boxes – Eric/Scott:
 - There is no update. Jon will pick up the boxes sometime in February or March.
 - Scott will send an official letter stating the boxes need to be removed by March.
 - c) Mission/Vision Statement Congregation Education – Scott
 - d) Strategic Planning – Scott: 11/5/2022
 - e) PrideFest Booth, October 1, 2022 – Scott:
 - Scott thought it was wonderful and they met a lot of wonderful people. Some people were glad to find out there is a DoC affiliated church in Las Cruces.
 - While Scott and Eric were sitting in the booth they noticed the booths that got a lot of attention had things to give away or a game to play.
 - Speaking to others we should be there next year.
 - We agreed we should have a booth again next year and we should plan prior to the event to have activities and/or giveaways.
 - f) Street-side signage – Bruce - He checked the Las Cruces regulations and found ground signs have a limit of only 3x4 feet. We questioned whether we are better off to replace the glass in the sign? Bruce will ask the city what can we do?
- #### 4) NEW BUSINESS
- a) Nominating Committee –
 - Traditionally the president heads a committee and works on the nominations. Last year Sue Stefford-Grey and Eric Hays-Strom worked on the nominations.
 - Going forward we will have the president, president-elect and the immediate past president as the nominating committee, respectively Scott Hays-Strom, Esther Devall and Sue Stefford-Grey. However, Sue is busy with personal business so the group will ask Paul Cook, the previous president as a substitute.
 - The president can create an ad hoc committee to coordinate events. This committee will oversee different booth opportunities, potlucks, etc.
 - Change the name of the Pastoral Relations Committee to Pastoral Support Team so the name reflects the group's responsibilities.



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- Rev. Richard said it is a good idea to have persons who are on the search committee on the Pastoral Support Team. The search committee worked with the incoming pastor for several months prior to the pastor coming and they have a vested interest in the pastor's success. Esther will work on the wording for the Pastor Support Team for the next meeting.
- Scott will ask Don W. to head the pastor search committee. Then in consultation with the board, appoint the rest of the search committee.
- The board will be responsible to get an interim or bridge pastor. The search committee spent time getting an interim pastor after Pastor Linda left because she had been at FCC for a while and the congregation was very connected to her. They needed someone to help them through the grieving process. Pastor Bethany hasn't been here as long, and we had 2 years in covid separation, so we don't have as strong of a connection to her. Pastor Richard is helping us through the grieving process. The board thinks it is sufficient to go with a bridge pastor so the search committee can work on getting a pastor for FCC. It is suggested to get the bridge pastor from DoC because we have dual affiliation with DoC and UCC. Our current pastor is from UCC.
- Scott will continue as the president to finish the strategy planning
- Esther will continue as the president-elect.

b) Executive Session – Personnel

2) ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) Open Floor

b) Next Board Meeting: November 19, 2022, 10 a.m.

3) Adjournment: Scott moved to adjourn the meeting.
Meeting adjourned at 11:39 pm.

Submitted by Karen Holmes,
Secretary