



Board Meeting Minutes First Christian Church November 19, 2022, 10:00 am

1) OPENING ITEMS

- a) Call to Order / Establish Quorum (10:02 am Ric Brightman, Esther Devall, Rev Richard Feyen, Eric Hays-Strom, Scott Hays-Strom, Karen Holmes, Paul Whitacre)
Excused: Sue Stefford-Grey
Absent: Kamy McKenzy-Shaw
Present: Melody Burns
- b) Devotional Minute given by Scott – Like the seasons we are in transition. When Scott was younger, he anticipated the gifts he would receive. Now he appreciates God's gift of love and the anticipation of the largest gift of God's love, Christ's birth.
- 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
 - i) Website: Eric, Bruce and John met to discuss the website. They decided to keep the current website. They now have admin rights to the site but still need to get control of the domain. Eric said it is one of the best in Las Cruces but still need to remove the stale content and update information like pastor.
 - ii) Need to be aware of the categories of users, i.e., those looking for a church, current members and friends.
 - iii) Karen suggested other committees maintain their own pages. Eric said content to post can be sent to the email, tech-com@fcllc.org.
 - iv) Still need to discuss who can provide and enter content into the website. The content needs to be developed and John will post to the website. He will not develop the content.
- b) Faith Action Committee – Paul W
- c) Worship Committee – Eric
 - i) Attendance Report – Eric
- d) Property Liaison – Karen
- e) Pastoral Relations Committee – Esther
Changed name to Pastor Support Team

- f) Pastor's Report – Rev. Richard Feyen
Pastor Richard received a call from the Bair Foundation because they are in desperate need of foster parents. November 27th they will give a presentation and have additional information.
- g) Treasurer's Report – Bruce
- h) Financial Secretary's Report – Eric
Need to get pledge cards out – try to have ready tomorrow.
 - i) Stewardship – Esther – There was a good response to her talk and skit based on received comments and Bruce's receipts.
- i) Nominating Committee – Scott
 - i) Most persons are willing to continue.
 - ii) Deb Cook will replace Charlotte Brooks on the Pastor Support team.
 - iii) Sherry Woods and Melody Burns have been asked to join the board as Member at Large.
 - iv) There is a need for interns for both the Financial Secretary and Treasurer positions.
- j) Pastor search: The board is responsible for a pastor starting in December. This person is needed for pulpit fill as we go into the advent season and decide whether we hire an extended term or interim pastor. We have 2 friends of Pastor Bethany that we can still see are available and Patrick Crocker also said he wishes to fill the position.
 - i) An extended term pastor is the same as our current pastor. We can hire someone from other affiliations like Methodists. Pastor Richard said he sent information to the regional office that he was working here.
 - ii) An interim pastor is a long term pastor that is accountable to the regional conference.
 - iii) Ric commented that we should have an interim pastor because there is a need for healing due to Pastor Bethany's leaving. We shouldn't rush but intentional in hiring of a pastor.
- k) Property Matters – Paul W
 - i) Parlor Roof Repair – Dave and Jerry worked on the roof
 - ii) Rachael Ryan of Backyard Farms will need electrical work done at her cost. There is a need for additional outlets for the hydroponic gardening.
 - iii) Outside repair work is done – need supports for the conduits.
 - iv) Parlor lighting and other lighting: This has been more difficult than anticipated. Completed and current work in the parlor, meditation room, restrooms and hallway. Paul plans to work on the track lighting in front of the sanctuary and work on the kitchen next year. Many thanks from the group to Paul and his friend for doing the work. Paul said the work is difficult in an

older building because don't know what to expect and he is simply trying to make it safe and up to code.

3) OLD BUSINESS:

a) Follow up on Retreat ideas:

- i) Convert Bridal Room to Meditation Space - Eric/Scott – will remove from old business and include in property matters. Eric and Scott plan to get paint after Thanksgiving and work on the room.

b) Status of Jon Kessler boxes – Eric/Scott:

- There is no update. It was noted in past minutes that there is a deadline of March for Jon to pick up the boxes.

c) Mission/Vision Statement Congregation Education – Scott

This is ongoing and will be removed from the agenda.

d) Strategic Planning – Scott:

The next meeting is December 10th. Scott is compiling all our findings and we will make decision of next steps at that meeting. If we make the decision prior to the congregational meeting, it will be reported at that meeting.

e) Street-side signage – Bruce – no update.

f) Event/Social Life Committee – TBD – no update

- g) Melody brought up the need for printed newsletters. They are needed for those who do not get electronic newsletter. It was requested to have several copies in the atrium for those take home. Pastor Richard said the elders should have printed copies to give to those they visit.

4) NEW BUSINESS

- a) Ric asked if there are audits run on the books. Other than Eric and Bruce auditing each other there hasn't been an audit. We agreed it is needed as a protection for those who are working on finances. It is an action item for February because December and January are busy.
- b) Melody noticed the Las Cruces Sun newspaper had an ad for First Christian Church. Bruce stated we are not paying for the ad, but it is still being published.
- c) Ric will be absent for the December board meeting.

5) Executive Session: 11:46 – 12:07

6) ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Open Floor

b) Next Board Meeting: December 17, 2022, 10 a.m.

7) Adjournment: Eric moved to adjourn the meeting.
Meeting adjourned at 12:07 am.

Submitted by Karen Holmes,
Secretary