



Board Meeting Minutes First Christian Church August 19, 2023, 10:00 am

At the beginning of the board meeting (10:01 – 11:20), Officer Johnny Estrada of the Las Cruces Police Department gave a presentation and recommendations in preventing and handling active shooters and other dangers.

1) OPENING ITEMS

- a) Call to Order / Establish Quorum (11:30 am Ric Brightman, Rev. Patrick Crocker, Esther Devall, Eric Hays-Strom, Scott Hays-Strom, Karen Holmes, Kamy McKenzie-Shaw, Bruce Weber, Sherry Woods)

Excused: Phil Brooks – Signed in via zoom but we had problems with our microphone, so he signed off.

Absent:

Present: Paul Cook, Aletta Wilson, Sandy Weber, Zante Garcia, Melody Burns, Melissa McKenzie-Shaw, Bethany McKenzie-Shaw

Weaving for Justice: Christine Eber, Janet Darrow, Patricia Gonzalez

Breath of Life Ministries: Adam Coca

Note: Paul Cook, Sandy Weber and Adam Coca left after the active shooter presentation.

- b) Devotional Minute – Esther – Not given because of the length of time spent with the active shooter training.

c) Approval of Agenda:

d) Approval of Minutes:

- i) Board Meeting July 15, 2023

e) Log email vote – No email votes but special vote handled outside of our monthly board meeting.

- i) August 6th after the worship service the board met to extend the pulpit fill covenant with Rev. Patrick Crocker to February 1, 2024. It was approved and signed on August 6th.

2) COMMITTEE REPORTS – Decision to skip this portion of the agenda because there are reports we can read. The exception is the Faith Action Committee.

a) Property Matters – Esther – no report

b) Technology Committee – Eric/Bruce - no report

- c) Faith Action Committee – Aletta requested the approval to invite Denali Wilson to speak during our worship service. She spent the last 2 years working and passing a bill, which gives juveniles who are sentenced to life without parole the ability to go to the parole board and prove they have turned their lives around and request parole. Denali and her mother Lisa Wilson created a non-profit to support these prisoners, many who are now in their 40s. The non-profit will help the prisoners adjust to outside life. Denali works for the ACLU to help the prisoners prepare for a meeting with the parole board. Aletta was told she doesn't need board approval and should speak to the pastor and/or worship committee. It was suggested to have a potluck that Sunday so people can speak with her after the service.
 - d) Worship Committee – Eric
 - i) Attendance Report – Eric
 - e) Property Liaison – Karen – no report
 - f) Pastoral Support Committee – Esther
 - g) Pastor's Report – Rev. Patrick Crocker – no report
 - h) Treasurer's Report – Bruce
 - i) Financial Secretary's Report – Eric
 - i) Stewardship – Esther – no report
 - j) Event Committee – Scott/Eric – No report
 - k) Pastoral Search Committee – Ralph Holmes (chair) – No report
- 3) STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW – Scott/Esther – Skipped this month, will review next month.
- a) Visitation and outreach education for Elders.
 - b) Improve Learning for Elders

See Document: 3_Monitoring and evaluation of plan.docx.

- 4) OLD BUSINESS:
- a) Status of Jon Kessler boxes – Eric/Scott – They held off to ensure Jon Kessler is aware. They will send a certified letter requiring his signature. The letter will have time limits for him to respond.
 - b) Status of Meditation Chapel – Eric and Scott said the room is coming together well. They have received some donations and are waiting on the installation of the curtains.

- c) Congregational Survey – Kamy - Kamy made the changes as suggested by Esther. Esther gave the go ahead to give the survey to the congregation. Kamy will send the survey to Eric, who will create an email to send to the congregation via MailChimp.
- d) Policy and Procedure Report – Eric (Proposed and not approved)
 - i) Crisis Response Plan - Kamy
 - ii) Child Protection Policy/Procedure – Esther reviewed the document and added her comments. Eric will modify the document per Esther’s suggestions and send it to the board for next month’s meeting.
 - iii) Employee Handbook Policy/Procedure
 - iv) Sexual Misconduct Policy/Procedure – Esther/Eric
- e) Western Sky (Mental Health Training) – Esther
Esther reminded everyone that those going to the training will meet after the September board meeting for the preliminary classwork. The training will occur in October.
- f) Church Little Food Pantry – Karen
Karen purchased the food and gave it to John Schwendinger to hand out as needed. The total was \$89.85. I created a spreadsheet of the purchased items and shared it with John, who said he will create a shared document of it and maintain the inventory. I told him to let me know if any items need to be replenished.

5) NEW BUSINESS

- a) Security –
 - i) Weaving for Justice (WFJ) had a break-in and items worth thousands of dollars were stolen. It was decided we need more lights and cameras. We already have motion detector lights. WFJ will add bars to the windows and request deadbolt locks for the doors. Bruce proposed to WFJ an offer of up to \$1000 for the creation and installation of the bars and give them free rental from September 2023 through June 2024, Eric second, approved.
 - ii) We should ask the other renters whether they need window bars. Karen will discuss with St. John’s CCOA and Backyard Farms.
 - iii) Esther will ask Dave Wofford if he can investigate the need for Lights and cameras.
 - iv) Bruce will talk to locksmith about the installation of deadbolts.
 - v) We need to create a security/safety plan and team. Officer Estrada stated to Esther that the security team should consist of at least 2 persons and the need for us to practice.
- b) Membership Class – Eric/Rev Patrick – The class will be held August 27th after the worship service. There are 10 people that are interested in the membership inquiry class. Eric moved to approve the expenditure of \$150 for food for the membership inquiry meeting, Kamy seconded, approved.

6) ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) Open Floor – Ric mentioned we haven't had a potluck for a long time and that potlucks are good for fellowship. Esther stated perhaps a potluck can be scheduled sometime in September.

b) Next Board Meeting: September 16, 2023, 10 a.m.

7) Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 12:11 pm.

Submitted by Karen Holmes,
Secretary