

Manchester UMC Leadership Board Minutes

Zoom Meeting March 28, 2021, 3:00 pm

Secretary: Barb Zenser

In attendance: Kristi Koehl, Jeff Haupt, Susanne Mertens, Barb Zenser, Nancy Miller, Dave Divjak, Sarah Hennebey, Ali Fields, Jim Lange, Rob Peterson, Aidan Combs, Joe Strohm, Chuck Healy, Kim Taylor, Linda Horodenski, Rev. Andy Bryan, Rev. Phil Estes, Rev. Jim Peich, Rev Stephanie Lendt

Jeff Haupt, Lay Leader, led the meeting in Beth's absence.

Devotional (Susanne)

Joys and Concerns were shared

Old Business

January Minutes

Following discussion, the board approved the January minutes as amended to read: "The board discussed a proposed change to our MUMC wedding policy to be more inclusive. Andy discussed his support for this policy change and shared supporting information from across the conference. The board tabled the conversation until next month when they will vote on the policy change."

February Minutes

Following discussion, the board approved the February minutes as amended to include the omitted comment under Policy Proposal, the third bullet point. Included was the statement: "Our decision was aligned with the Book of Discipline section 162 J".

Both sets of amended minutes will be available to the congregation.

Ministry Highlight *Recorded

Mary Corwin presented the background/update on the MO Hab Riders upcoming rides.

Congregational Input

There were no requests to speak to the board.

New Business

Welcome to newest board member Dave Divjak

The floor was opened for questions and comments from board members. The discussion centered on:

- Informing and inviting members into the conversation about policy decision. Andy, Jim and Nick are working on ways to further the dialogue and bring people to the table.
- Assuring that members who don't have access to computers and media are informed and invited. Members needing mailed information should contact the office.
- Regularly extending the invitation to the Open Leadership Board meetings

Lead Pastor Update (Pastor Andy)

▪ In-Person Worship

On April 11, phase 3 worship will begin and then, shortly thereafter, phase 4. The Leadership Team and staff are working on process and procedures for the opening. Church will look and feel different, but will still provide the experience of our typical services. RSVPs for in-church attendance will help inform planning. Nevertheless, virtual services will still be available.

▪ Visioning Process Summary

The summary of the congregational responses to Visioning was presented to the board and will soon be shared with the congregation. Responses fell into four major categories: Evangelism, Generosity, Service/Social Justice, and "Connectionalism". A task force will be established this summer to develop a Strategic Plan 2021-2026 based on these four identified areas.

Operations and Generosity (Executive Pastor Phil)

Finance Update

- As of 02/28/2021, the year-to-date Budget to Actual Operating Revenue variance is (\$108,327). Year-to-date Operating Expenses are below budget by \$71,642.
- The 2021 annual Operating Budget deficit of \$206,483 will be offset by PPP Loan Forgiveness funds.
- The application for PPP forgiveness is completed.
- Total funds needed to achieve our four-year (2018-2021) capital contributions goal of \$900,000 is \$145,911
- Employee Retention Credit: A change in the IRS rules governing the Employee Retention Credit allows PPP loan recipients to file an amended return for qualified payroll taxes. MUMC could save approximately \$230,000 in 2020 payroll tax. An amended form would need to be filed to receive this credit. This credit would not affect the PPP loan. Discussion followed and consensus was for Phil and RubenBrown CPAs, MUMC financial advisors, to go forward with calculations and preparation of the documentation necessary for filing an amended return. Board approval will be requested, once the total qualified amount is prepared, either by email motion and unanimous vote, or at the April meeting.

Long Term Facility Needs/Priorities

- A single system replacement of the heating and cooling system is estimated to require and investment of approximately \$3.1 million Marc McManus, member and volunteer engineer working with Phil Estes recommends targeting critical areas on a priority basis. (Previously, the board did not want to go into debt for this project or for a lease-purchase option.)
- Roof estimate replacement of flat roofs pending for further estimates. These repairs could be staggered.
- Two sections of the parking lot are in need of repair and pavement. The necessary money is budgeted if bids are favorable.
- Flooring in several areas need replacement. The 2019 quote was for \$209,000 total. Again, a phased plan is recommended with funding sources that could include endowment distributions, capital gifts, operating funds, etc. After evaluation of the age of flooring and alternative materials, priorities will be determined.

Ministry and Leadership (Executive Pastor Jim)

- Jim reported on the many family and youth activities. Sixty families participated in the Eggstravaganza. The Children and Youth Ministries are partnering for JUMP, program for youth transitioning from elementary school to youth program. Young Adults have developed new, varied and varied programming. The WIN teams are working on new welcoming signage.
- Molly Henley has started in the finance part-time position
- There is currently an opening for afternoon receptionist.
- MUMC had an ad for Easter in the West County Newsmagazine and congregants sent out many Easter invite postcards.

Hospitality and Congregational Care (Associate Pastor Stephanie)

- The Stephens Ministers have been actively connecting with members on line and over the phone.
- Stephanie is busy working on the plans for the welcome team for the April 11 opening.

● 4:50 Closing Prayer (Rob)

Next Meeting:

April 25, 2021 will be HYBRID via Zoom/in person, 3-5pm

Secretary: Linda

Devotional: Kristi

Closing Prayer: Kim