

# Minutes of FCUCC Board Meeting

## August 11, 2024

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST OF ASHEVILLE



Senior Minister: Rev. Dr. Kendra Plating

Board Members: Chris Cain, Larry Burke, Peggy Grant, Eric Barbour, Carol Austin-Janssen, Joanne Roudebush, and Cara Pollard

**FCUCC's mission is to:**

- 1. Embody a forward-thinking, courageous, and diverse Christian community.**
- 2. Follow the ways of Jesus the Christ as a grace-filled, spiritual congregation.**
- 3. Practice affirming and radical hospitality.**
- 4. Engage our local and global community with acts of love, mercy, peace, and justice.**

**FCUCC's vision is to be an embracing community, public sanctuary, and prophetic Christian voice.**

**Moderator: Chris Cain**

**Location: Room 204 at FCUCC**

**Clerk: Kathleen Carter**

**Welcome & Facilitation – Chris**

The meeting was called to order at 12:20 p.m. The following were in attendance: Chris Cain, Larry Burke, Peggy Grant, Eric Barbour, Carol Austin-Janssen, Cara Pollard, Joanne Roudebush, Rev. Dr. Kendra Plating, Al Vidmar.

### **Guest – Al with Web design**

Al Vidmar discussed plans for updating the website – first the public-facing pages, then the back-end. He will work with Kathleen S, and will update the Board monthly either in person or online.

### **Devotion – Eric**

### **Consent Agenda (if a report is provided)**

#### **Approval of Minutes from Board Meeting July 2024**

#### **Pastoral Report**

#### **Plans and Proposals for Ministries calendar sheet and annual action plan**

#### **Approval of July Financial Report**

#### **Personnel Committee Report**

#### **Approval of July Building and Grounds Report**

### **Discussion Agenda**

#### **B & G budgets questions regarding light in the back**

The Board approved installation of the previously purchased lights. Doug will contact Appalachian Electric and Generator, who have previously done work for the church, to install the lights.

#### **Understanding and Supporting the Transgender Youth – presentation discussion update**

The event went well; possibly should have made it available online.

#### **Chris – Updates on upcoming audit**

no updates

#### **Eric – Update on cash investments and other finance decisions**

As per the Church's financial policies, funds received from the Scott estate were first applied to Diane's outstanding pledge.

The Board approved establishing a money market fund with United Church Fund to hold the remaining funds until final disposition.

The Finance Committee will look into having a civil engineer do an evaluation of the church to determine, for example, whether the latest recommendation on dealing with the masonry of the church is realistic and correct.

The Board approved asking the congregation to approve the following distribution, based on recommendations from the Finance Committee:

- \$5,000 to underwrite the 2025 UNCA students who supplement our choir
- \$15,000 to support a speaker series or other justice related program that would serve the church and community
- \$15,000 to support youth and children programming
- \$30,000 to be applied to the mortgage to pay down the principal owed
- \$30,000 to be held in reserve toward future capital projects

### **Discuss date for congregational meeting for legacy gift discussion and spending approval for the audit**

The audit doesn't require congregational approval. The Board will just notify the congregation of the audit.

The congregational meeting to discuss the legacy gift will take place on September 8 (and be followed by a short Board meeting).

### **Start Discussion of Development of a Three-Year Strategic Plan**

The Board would like to complete the three-year strategic plan by year-end so can start 2025 with actual goals.

Kendra has reviewed the list of eight priorities obtained from the congregation, and identified the following as immediate priorities:

social justice

children, youth, and growth

welcoming and inclusion

Kendra will present the three topics to the Ministry Teams this week.

The Board will draft a strategic plan, derived from congregational conversations and surveys, then take it to the congregation.

Before the next Board meeting, all Board members are to read through the sample strategic plan and start thinking about actionable steps and timeframes.

**Report back from Personnel regarding # of adults being a minimum of 2 for child-care**

The Personnel Committee is working to develop a pool of adults willing to participate.

**Safe Church (Section 10 – discussion) – Pastor**

**Final vote – Drafts in Teams Pastor-Parish Relations**

The Board approved the latest version of the Pastor-Parish Relations policy with additional edits.

**Chris – Update on article on new pastor for Asheville Citizen Times and Mountain Express**

The article about the new pastor has been printed in Mountain Xpress, but not yet in the Citizen-Times.

**Any other items?**

Cara will close the next meeting.

**Closing Prayer and Adjourn: Chris**

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Carter