

# Northwest Hills UMC Board Draft Minutes

April 15, 2014

**Members Present:** Neill Gruver, Gary Johnson, Pastor Charlie Baskin, Associate Pastor Audrey Spencer, Ken Moyer, Greg Gitcho, Nancy Gibson, Daniel Dietz, Brad Hoffman, Elizabeth Gunter, Jean Lenard, Patti Bizzell

**Members Absent:** Les Broomall, Allen Woelke, Richard Wilkison, Carol Wratten

**Also Attending:** Bill Cain, Co-Chair of the Purpose Team

## **Opening Prayer**

Meeting was called to order at 6:50 p.m. Opening prayer given by Charlie Baskin

## **Approval of minutes from March meeting.**

**Moved:** Gary Johnson moved approval.

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Daniel Dietz seconded.

**Discussion:** Nancy Gibson corrected number eight re: UMW update. UMW is not working on plans to have the ladies go out to eat on the night the UMM have their steak dinner o September 21. She did say that it would be fun to repeat the dinner out that some women enjoyed last year.

**Vote:** Minutes as amended passed unanimously.

## **Purpose Team Update. Bill Cain**

**Comments:** Bill distributed a handout (Attachment A) of the results of the Purpose Team Meeting on April 10, 2014. Twenty five ministries were reviewed to determine three things: (1) What was different; (2) What were the successes; and (3) What were the challenges. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 5. The ministries to be reviewed for that meeting have not been determined yet and Bill invited suggestions from the group.

The Purpose Team identified several events coming up for the church:

April 18 – Searching for Easter

May 3 – UMM fish fry, golf tournament and silent auction

May 18 – Senior Recognition Sunday - four seniors recognized in both services and during Sunday School.

June 7 – Emmaus Gathering from 5-8 p.m. with cake auction scholarship fundraiser, guest speaker, sponsorship training, a children’s cake walk and agape feast before the gathering service with music, fourth day speaker and communion service.

July – Jean Marinus retirement reception

Austin Free Store: Starting the first Sunday in May and each first Sunday thereafter the church will receive items for the store

Purpose Team considered suggestions regarding signage in the Narthex and the children’s Sunday school classrooms to more easily find rooms.

## **Trustee issues**

Trustees are working on a Water fountain replacement for FLC, window locks replacement for MFH and a possible additional room in FLC for computer lab for MFH.

## **Staff Parish Relations issues**

Jean reported that the SPRC have interviewed three possible candidates for the Director of Children's ministries replacement. They are continuing with their search for a replacement with an emphasis on family (children though youth) who is outreach minded.

## **Financial issues**

### **March Financials update and approval.**

**Discussion:** My Friends House is doing very well financially so far this year. Income for March was over \$13,000 above the budget, but this was driven by almost \$12,000 in early payments for the summer programs. Expenses for March were almost \$6,000 below budget, but some expenses for safety padding in the playgrounds and new exterior doors will impact that in the future.

The church's financial status is mixed. Overall it looks good, except we are not paying our full Apportionments. Pledged income remains well above average, driven largely by the early paying of several pledge increases. Offerings from members who did not pledge are surprisingly above expectation, perhaps spurred by conversations we have had about our budget problems. Offerings from visitors are well below expectations. We normally see those spike at Easter and Christmas, so perhaps we will see some increases this month, although year to date we are well behind our experience last year.

Note that we paid the first three months of our Base Apportionments in March and are now caught up. We have a small amount budgeted for Apportionment Benevolences and we have not made any of those payments yet.

A major Facilities expense item in March was the payment for roof repairs for the Youth Center building. Other than that, most expense categories were at or below budget for the month and for the year to date.

Cash flow for MFH and the church is good. Patti Bizzell requested that the minutes reflect that all of the accounts of the Texas Methodist Foundation and Compass Bank for both MFH and the church reconciled for the month of March.

**Recommendation from Finance:** Approval of March Financials for both MFH and the Church

**Vote:** unanimous approval

## **Healthy Church Initiative update**

Charlie Baskin reported that the Evangelism/ Discipleship Committee continues to meet every other week to develop ways to meet the needs of people seeking the church.

## **UMM update. Ken Moyer**

Ken reported two events coming up: (1) the golf tournament, fish fry and dessert auction on May 3 that is open to all adults and teens; and (2) the Steak Dinner for United Methodist Men on September 21. Matt Mitchell will be the guest speaker. The golf tournament is a major fund raiser that allows UMM to help various ministries around the church.

## **UMW update. Nancy Gibson**

Nancy reported that UMW sponsored Church Women United in April. Donations went to Comfort House. Book reviewed by the Book Club was "Year of Plenty". At their regular meeting Chris Cloud, (Hope Ministries) talked about her fair trade products. In May UMW will sponsor a Staff Salad Luncheon. UMW does not meet in the summer but will resume in September.

## **Youth update: Audrey Spencer**

Audrey met with Solange who reported that the After School Program is very successful with from 37-45 students regularly attending every Wednesday afternoon. Solange said that she is in need of many more volunteers to help and asked the Board members to spread the word. Two Murchison youth have joined the Youth Praise Band. The youth will lead the Sunrise service on Easter morning. A mission trip to New Orleans is scheduled for this summer. Solange indicated that her workload expands beyond the weekly 20 hours allocated for the youth director position and asked the Board to review the needs of the church and consider whether the position is adequate.

## **New Business and Items to address at next meeting**

Fifth Sunday Fellowship is scheduled for June 29<sup>th</sup>. It was decided to have an ice cream social and to ask Susan Hammond and the Fellowship Committee to organize the event.

Elizabeth Gunter will contact Mary Frances Markley to see if she is interested in organizing the retirement reception for Jean Marinus in July.

The Purpose of the Board will be reviewed at the May Board meeting.

## **Draft Pastors Performance reviews. Jean Leonard**

Executive Session: Board went into executive session at 8:20 p.m. to review pastors' performance reviews. Jean and Neill will meet with Charlie and Jean and Charlie will meet with Audrey to discuss results.

## **Closing prayer**

Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m. with closing prayer from Gary Johnson.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 20 at 6:45 p.m.

Attachment A (see agenda item "Purpose Team")

Attachments are available in the church Office Manager's office.