

First Baptist Church

February 15, 2015

Council of Steward Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 by President Harold Gragg. Other council members present were: Casey Campbell, Lindsey Jackson, Steve Dean, Ron Grant, Brandon Fisher and Donna Wagner. Others present included Steve Russ, Glenda Belt, Max Wagner, Gary Hawkins and several members of the congregation.

Steve Dean opened with prayer, followed by devotion led by Donna Wagner.

The December minutes were distributed and Brandon Fisher moved that the minutes be approved as presented. Ron Grant seconded the motion and the minutes were approved. Casey Campbell moved that the January minutes be approved as presented, Lindsey Jackson seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

**Special Reports**

Pastor Search Team: Gary Hawkins updated the council on the search for a new pastor. The team has received and reviewed several applications and is moving forward in their search.

**Old Business**

***Transitional pastor, Interim pastor, Pulpit Supply, Ministerial staff?***

Harold asked for thoughts from the council. Several members expressed they felt some in the congregation wanted consistency in the pulpit, an interim or transitional pastor, and that the congregation should ultimately decide what was needed.

It was decided that we should have someone, perhaps Gary Mathis, from Missouri Baptist Convention come back to FBC and explain what transition would look like for our church now, compared to when Dr. Preston came and the difference between transitional and interim pastors. Brandon Fisher will contact Mr. Mathis and set a time for him to visit with the council and congregation.

Ron Grant moved that, following an informative process of all options, the council will ask the church how we proceed with Dr. Preston's leaving until we receive a Senior Pastor. Steve Dean seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

### ***Audit/Review for 2013***

Everyone had reviewed the proposed Audit/Review given to the council at the January meeting and a question was raised about why we are auditing 2013 and if we could have 2013 and 2014 reviewed so that we are more current. Brandon will contact the agency and see what the cost would be to audit both years and report back to council at the March meeting.

### **New Business**

#### ***Guide One Insurance***

A request to review insurance coverage by Guide One Insurance has been received. After asking if the council is satisfied with old insurance, it was decided to send policy limits to Guide One and invite the representative to the next council meeting to present her proposal. Harold Gragg will coordinate with Diana to set this up.

#### ***Church's liability concerning deacons work teams***

Dianna has asked about the liability coverage of our deacon work teams, and been assured that they are covered with the current insurance policy. The council will ask her to get more information about the coverage. Brandon asked if the insurance covers the workers only, or if it covers law suits due to any losses at the job site due to workmanship.

### **Vacancy on Council of Stewards**

Harold Gragg recognized Paula Shafer for her service on the council.

Harold suggested that we go back to the congregation for nominations to fill the vacant position. Steve Russ outlined the process. After nominations are taken from the congregation, the nominations go to the nominating committee, made up of the current Chairman of Deacons and the past three Chairmen of Deacons. He has also been sitting in on the nominating committee meetings and interviews.

Nominations will be taken from Feb. 22, 2015 until Mar. 15, 2015. The call for nominations will be posted in the Mainspring as well as included in the newsletter that is e-mailed to members, as well as other means of advertisement within the church. The process will proceed from there.

### **Team Reports**

#### **Personnel**

Although staff have been given personnel manuals without the approved amendments from January meeting, they will be given the corrected version and have the opportunity to sign the corrected version.

Diana McElwain is working in the office 8a.m. to 5p.m. since Tracy Border's resignation, taking on more job duties.

Jonie Pfiefer has been working in the office 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday and Friday, with volunteers working Tuesday – Thursday.

All staff member have been asked to write job descriptions and will meet with Steve Russ and one person from the personnel committee to discuss their job description and goals.

Ron Grant asked if the council will see the job descriptions before the staff meets with Steve and the personnel committee. Casey Campbell said that should not be a problem, but they are trying to streamline the process and nothing will be approved until the full council sees them.

### **Finanace**

The finance reports were reviewed and it was found that the Richardson Scholarship to SBU was paid as well as debt reduction on the children's wing.

Lindsey Jackson and Donna Wagner will be added to the bank account.

### **Building and Grounds**

Ron Grant reported that the leak in the building today was from the feeder pipe. There is a plan to replace the feeder pipe. He made a motion that the building committee be able to contract for no more than \$9,000. to replace the feeder pipe, heat tracing it and insulating it. Brandon Fisher seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Steve Russ asked if the money transferred from the designated savings account could also be used to repair water damage around the baptistry? Ron Grant said that it could, and the goal is to fix public areas first, and this can be done before the insurance money comes in. Steve Dean added that there is no plan o fix the feeder pipe supplying the west restrooms and the old nursery. Ron Grant asked Steve Russ to prioritize the needs.

Steve Dean shared a plan to fix the problem of water running into the southwest doors, using a retaining wall for a cost of approximately \$4,000 - \$5,000. Steve also shared that the energy audit Bill Shafer had suggested replacing the bulbs in hard to reach areas with 7 year bulbs since it is such an expense for the equipment needed to change them.

The council adjourned to a closed session for personnel matters. The session was closed in prayer.

The next council meeting will be March 8<sup>th</sup> at 3p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Wagner