

USG BOARD MEETING AUGUST 26, 2014

PRESENT - Dennis Strain, Linda O'Gwynn, Anne Schoonmaker, Craig Miller, Marina Patrice Nolan, Bob Williford, Scott Wolkenburg

ABSENT - Linda Brunn, Judy Rodes

VISITING - Daniel Gregoire, Kent Matthies, Gloria Smith

Ritual for opening the Board Meeting

How should we open our meetings?

The board decided on a period of silence and a reading to be chosen by a different person each month.

Approval of minutes

The July Minutes were approved by vote of 6-0.

Minister's Report

No further comments other than the written report.

There was discussion about how the minister's report should be presented to the board (format) and how the Board should make use of the report??

Members of the Board reported hearing conversation from other church leaders about lobbying for an elevator. MPIC is aware of this conversation. Members of the Board asked at what point does this become a board conversation and how does the Board fit into that discussion about an elevator. It was decided that MET should report to the Board . Then the board can make a decision on it and provide direction. Dennis tabled the discussion till a later date.

President's Report

The Board discussed that Buildings & Grounds wants to put in a water retention system that will cost 150K. The City will fund it and USG has partnered with Drexel engineering students to design the project. This is seen as a positive because it will save the church money on having to pay someone to design it and the monthly water bill. The retention system will allow rain water to be contained and then released slowly into the grounds around the church.

Strategic Initiatives

Board reviewed the proposed strategic initiatives as presented by Dennis. The Board approved the three proposed Strategic Initiative changes as written 7-0. Scott volunteered to help write a

Preamble for the Initiatives. The proposed changes will be sent to MET for implementation and they will be charged with developing a plan containing what metrics they will monitor and how often. The Board will request that MET operationalize the initiatives. MET and the board will also decide how frequently they will report to the board. The Board will continue to have oversight.

The Board will talk about how to distribute the Initiatives at the next meeting.

Expansion of Nominating Committee

The Board reviewed and discussed the Bylaws Amendment for clarity on the process.

The Board approved the Bylaws with modifications in bold and an additional change added for the nominating committee in the final sentence of the second paragraph. This to read *"Nominations from the floor will be accepted for the Nominating Committee if the secretary receives notice 25 days prior to the meeting that the proposed nominee is willing to serve."*

Vote 7 - 0. The motion was approved.

Board Liaisons

Tabled till next meeting.

150th Anniversary

Tabled till next meeting.

Board Retreat

Tabled till next meeting.

Co-sponsoring Daniels Ordination

Daniel's ordination will be held [on November 9th at 4 pm](#) in Manhattan. Daniel is asking for a Stole from USG. There is money left over from Joan's ordination that can go towards a Stole and possible USG celebration.

There was further discussion and questions by Board members about Daniel's role in the church and Fair Compensation as an Assistant Minister. The Board was informed by Kent that Daniel's role has already expanded due to prior training and would not change but his title would change to Minister of Spiritual Development.

The Board would like to know what the expectations are from this church for his Ordination.

Meeting ended 10:10