

Bridgewater Church of the Brethren
Board of Administration
Minutes
October 6, 2019

Members Present: Ann Daggett, Erin Dalrymple, Heather Driver, Bill Faw, Mike Fike, Phil Flory, Ted Flory, Kathleen Gardner, Alice Lee Hopkins, Terry Houff, Rufus Huffman, David Lineweaver, Claire Martindale, George Mason, Bea Miller, Bill Miracle, Gladys Remnant, S. L. Simmons, Dwyann Stovall, Tony Stovall, and Chris Zepp.

Members Absent: Sally Jane Conner, Beth Day-Miller, Gena Day-Miller, Todd Kiracofe, and Steve Longenecker.

Others Present: Kasey Carns (Intern)

The meeting of the Bridgewater Church of the Brethren Board of Administration was called to order by Chair Rufus Huffman at 7:00 PM. Interim Pastor Christy Dowdy began the meeting with introductions of the Board members. Pastor Christy shared thoughts about “who are we and where are we going?” In the interim period we will need to discern where we are going. She then led the group in prayer.

The minutes from the September 18, 2019, meeting were approved as previously e-mailed to members with no corrections.

Treasurer Phil Flory reported that as of 09-30-2019, we are now “in the black”. We have caught up from our previously reported deficit during the month of September. The envelope giving is under budget, but the loose offering is over budget. There will be a \$30,090 draw that will come from the Foundation for the congregation. The Board will need to decide how to use these monies.

2020 Proposed Budget Approval – S.L. Simmons brought a motion from the Finance Commission: “The Finance Commission recommends the proposed 2020 budget to the Board of Administration. (See attached 2020 proposed budget.) Furthermore the commission recommends that any income over expenses at year-end 2020, up to \$12,415, be sent to our mission and ministry partners, pro rata.”

The motion passed unanimously in Finance Commission. To balance the budget monies were taken from the Mission and Ministry Partners. There were questions and discussion that followed. This is a budget “proposal” so many of the figures are based on percentages and price quotes, ie. health insurance premiums.

There was a motion for approval of the proposed budget and this was properly seconded and passed unanimously. The motion will now be sent to Church Council for approval.

Old Business

1. Gifts Discernment Committee Appointees:
 - Joyce Wampler has agreed to serve a second term
 - Rod Miller will join as a new member
2. Financial Secretary:
 - Job responsibilities are currently under discussion
3. Pastoral Search:
 - It is recommended by the District Executive that we move slowly at this time.

4. Christian Education position: Josh Eye is willing to stay on in the interim position until the end of the school year.
5. Youth Advisor position: Most of the program for work camps, etc, are already under way for the summer of 2020.

For both of these positions everything is on PAUSE at this time. Pastor Christy recommends that we move slowly in forming a search committee until it can be discerned what we actually need in filling these positions. There was concern shared that we determine a longer term permanent solution instead of hiring interim persons. We may need to look at a new model for these positions in our church.

6. Custodial position: Fortunato will continue full time into 2020 per Board Chair, Rufus Huffman.
7. AED Instructions: Brad Neher was contacted about holding a class for AED usage for the congregation. This has been put on hold as well.
8. Social Hall tile replacement project: This project is awaiting approval of funding by Church Council.

Commission/Committee/Foundation/Deacon Reports

Christian Education – 1. Children’s Church will be the 2nd and 4th Sundays this year.

2. Two new computers have been put in the library to build the catalog.

3. Baby Bibles will be given to all new babies/adopted babies in the church.

4. Christmas Parade and Advent Celebration will be December 7th.

Deacons – No Report

Fellowship and Recreation – No Report

Finance – Commitment cards have been mailed. Commitment Sunday will be November 10th.

Another motion was brought that passed unanimously in Finance Commission. This motion will go directly to Council and is only for information purposes for the Board of Administration:

“The Finance Commission recommends to the Council that \$15,300 be transferred from the Foundation General Fund to pay for the replacement of the tile in the Social Hall.”

Foundation – Claire Martindale is representing Jim Replogle who is out of town. The distributions are greater than the last few years as our investments are doing very well at this time.

Ministerial Services – the Commission voted to send their “student funds” to Sharon Flaten. Mike Hostetter has taken a leave of absence from the Commission until after his interim pastorate.

Mission and Service – Crop Meal is October 31st in Kline Campus Center. Crop Walk is November 3rd. Child Care Initiative mission statement is being written.

Properties – Lights in the parking lot are being repaired. The lights have been struck by lightning at some point per the electrician. One exterior light and one interior light have been changed to LED lights when they were repaired. The thought is to allow persons to see what the difference will be as other lights need to be repaired/replaced.

Witness and Nurture – Bible Marathon was October 12th with approximately 25 people in attendance. It was definitely a “marathon” and made for a long day. This commission is wanting to “witness” and “nurture” the congregation and any ideas or suggestions are welcome.

Worship and Music – Commission discussed Christmas and Advent service planning. Pastor Christy met with the commission to discuss our worship “traditions”.

New Business

There is a possibility that Ted Swartz and Ken Medema could come here for a concert while on their tour March 6 to 15. Witness and Nurture, Worship and Music and Mission and Service Commissions have monies left in their 2019 budgets that could finance this concert. No tickets would be sold, as this would be a gift to our congregation. Church Board agreed and gave it’s blessing.

The Board members sang Happy Birthday to Associate Pastor Chris Zepp. Bill Miracle stated that he feels the Board should acknowledge that Associate Pastor Chris has been taking on extra responsibility at this time.

Pastor's Report

Pastor Christy shared that every 6 months we should as a congregation discern when the time is right to set up a Search Committee for a new pastor. Pastor Christy envisions between one and 2 years for this process.

For the rest of the Pastor's Report see attached.

Additional Item

The refugee family wrecked the car donated by the church. There is a person who is be willing to sell her old car to them as she is ordering a new car. It was informed that if anyone wished to make a financial contribution to BCOB for Refugee Resettlement for their car, they could do so. No action is needed by the Board on this matter.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Dwynn Stovall
Assistant Church Clerk