

SALFORD MENNONITE CHURCH
CHURCH BOARD – Minutes
November 3, 2020

Members Present: Darin Benner, Ron Freed, Chris Miller, Becca Nagy, Randy Nyce, Dean Wimmer, Margaret Zook

Absent: Hannah Richter, Jane Ruth

Also Present: Maria Hosler Byler

Devotions: From “ Be Still and Know” - Psalms 46 and “Keeping Quiet” - Pueblo Neruda, the Board was invited into stillness and quiet to remember “that I am God”. - led by Margaret Zook.

Fiduciary: The following items were approved by consent agenda.

1. The Minutes of the October 6, 2020, Board meeting
2. Reconciled September Financials (finals)

Discussions:

1. **Seminary funding request** under Leadership Development Funding Guidelines for Brooke Martin for classes at EMU/EMS was submitted. Via e-mail on October 21, 2020, the Board approved.
2. **Schoolhouse Electric:** Electric issues due to a break in the line from Church to Schoolhouse resulted in no electric in the Schoolhouse. The recommended proposal includes up to \$18,000 for repairs, including new underground conduits and service lines from the church building to the Schoolhouse, along with cabling for improved WIFI service in the Schoolhouse. **Approved.**
3. **2021 budget:** The budget proposal, as reviewed in the September Board meeting, was presented. As proposed, the 2021 budget represents a total increase of .61%. **Approved for presentation to the congregation.**
4. **Video upgrade for sanctuary:** The current system is 12 years old. Current video requirements have increased the need for replacement. The project has been discussed and partially funded in previous years. Available would be \$17,577 held from previous years for this project, \$3,800 in current budget funds, with a balance to fund of approximately \$5,000. **The board approved funding the balance of this system replacement with current year excess funds.**
5. **Columbarium proposal:** Location: Northeast side of cemetery driveway off main parking lot (near garage). Designer: Sunset Memorial & Stone. specific design: Grand Legacy NLID for a total of 120 niches. 2+ urns in each Niche. Total completed cost of columbarium: approximately \$121,000, of which \$132,000 is currently available in the cemetery fund. Purchase price for each niche: \$1,500. The desire is for the concrete slab to be poured before winter for spring/summer installation of columbarium and opening in Summer of 2021. **The board approved this project as presented to be taken to the congregation for final approval.**
6. **Fall Congregational Meeting:**
 - a. Date: November 22, 2020 following worship service.
 - b. Suggested Format: Zoom for web conferencing with ability to join via computer or phone.
 - c. Agenda: 1. Columbarium. 2. 2020 Finance report. 3. Foundation Fund report. 4. 2021 proposed budget. 5. Update from Lead Pastor Search Committee.

Reports:

1. Written pastors’ reports were shared.
2. Additional information:
 - a. Reopening Task Force (Chris Miller, board member rep): Careful planning and research determined that the current Covid infection numbers do not support reopening for in-person worship at this time. Worship reopening, originally planned for 11/15, may need to be delayed. The Board reaffirmed the cautious approach to reopening and the good guidance being provided by the task force.

- b. Youth activities: Activities are under imagination and discussion with youth and conference leadership personnel. Planning for winter is following safety guidelines.
3. Board expressed their appreciation for pastoral leadership during this time.
4. Salford Mennonite Child Care report: Grant funding has been successful and various projects are being explored. Enrollment has been steady. There have been no cases of Covid. Staff is commended for diligent attention to safety.
5. Lead Pastor Search Committee report: Co-Chairs Randy and Margaret reviewed tasks completed. Second interview will be held week of Nov 9. The task list has been shared with the congregation.
6. Rejoicing: Hannah and Andy Richter announcement - Baby Boy born today!

Meeting was adjourned with Prayer for Election Day, November 3, 2020.

Next meeting: December 1, 2020

Respectfully recorded by Margaret Zook

Next Meeting: December 1, 2020 - 7:00 p.m.