

Session II of Congregational Meeting Minutes 1/5/19

1. Joanna opened the meeting with thanks to those attending. She asked to read only the Call to Reconvene (as opposed to including the original call to the November/2018 meeting), and did so.
 - a. Established that our goal is to continue to table/suspend items from 11/18/18 meeting to get through these business issues.
2. Branwen offered prayer.
3. Joanna introduced the first agenda item.
 - a. The conference provided \$2,000 toward our facilitation, and that is what we have spent to date.
 - b. We've further worked with Sarah-Elizabeth to determine how we should move forward, which will include 3 more meetings with her. The ultimate goal of the process is to come up with a plan to move forward which would include development of a behavioral covenant. **Joanna motioned to ensure enough funds to finish the Restorative Circle process, leadership is requesting the congregation to approve an additional \$5,000. Gini seconded motion.** Discussion/questions followed which included the process, the conflicts and offering of transparency of the small group meetings that followed the last congregational meeting, and feedback to be offered as part of moving forward.
 - c. Note that Liz Douglass is point person working with Sarah-Elizabeth.
 - d. Joanna asked all members and partners who are in favor of the financial approval to indicate so. **Call to vote: Most aye/yes, 0 opposed, 1 abstention.**
4. Proposal and vote on an extension of the 2018 budget to allow for continued operation. This takes agenda items 2/3 combined. Leadership is asking to operate using the 2018 monthly numbers so that we can postpone the budgeting process in order to continue this visioning process.

The LC motions to enter into 2019 without a 2019 budget, and have the right/ability to operate at a level of 2018 budget/spending, staffing, and contracts until such time as a vision for staffing and ministry can be agreed upon and a budget and plan can be agreed upon. This would continue for a minimum of 3 months, and not to exceed 6 months. Liz seconded.

Floor opened for discussion, which included questions about the increased staff, their mandate, job descriptions, and results. Not on agenda. We cannot address at this time. Capacity limitations have been experienced due to Restorative Circle process. Also noted that the Restorative Circle process will drive how we will move forward, how to hone in our vision and build a new plan. Specific questions about Susan Corso. Big update on the Letter of Interest, that Sanctuary has been invited to apply for the Cummings grant, which is connected to our am2pm program (due 2/14/19). There are 4 additional grants Susan has identified as having the greatest potential. She is willing to agree to a 6-month contract extension, as opposed to a full year.

Call to vote: All in favor of extending budget, all ayes/yes, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

5. The congregation must now vote to extend the pastor's contract. Wendy has been afforded the job security of a year-long/forward contract due to the experimental nature of Sanctuary. Joanna proposed vote to extend the lead pastor's contract through the end of 2020. Gini seconded. Floor opened for discussion which included the needed future consideration of a salary increase. Kathy asked for clarification of such votes in the call. Bruce asked for a compromise of some sort in a manner similar to that of what we're doing for the budget and Susan Corso. Moderator feels it's unprofessional to not offer this, and also to show confidence in our pastor. Sheri indicated that the general terms of the original/existing contract should be honored. Joy doesn't feel that the congregation has the information needed to determine whether that confidence exists and feels that the vote should be put off until we establish the budget. There was additional general discussion.

A possible compromise was to extend the contract through the end of June 2020 with the expectation that when the congregation votes to finalize the 2019 budget, there would be an amendment to further extend Wendy's contract through the end of 2020.

Joanna amended original motion to extend Wendy's contract through the end of June 2020, to be amended and voted on again at the upcoming (yet to be scheduled) budgeting meeting to further extend her contract to the end of 2020.

Jenny Briggs seconded. There was no further discussion desired on amended motion. **Call to vote – most aye/yes, 0 opposed, 1 abstention.**

6. **The LC proposes that the deadline for the 2019 annual meeting be extended at least 3 months, but no longer than 6 months.** It's norm is 1st Sunday in February. Bruce moves, Branwen seconded. Discussion: a ministry plan to support it, a budget to support it, and a governance team. **Call to vote: All in favor called - unanimously passed.**

*Valerie arrived to meeting.

7. Need for treasurer, and additional LC members. Maria Scott has resigned, but we have not yet accepted her resignation so as to stay in governance, but we must fill her position. Ask for volunteers.

Erin Sennott volunteered to be treasurer! Thanks be to God.

There was discussion regarding LC meetings, inclusion of ministry leaders, and by-laws.

8. Distribution of flyer, discussion of Weird Church (early December) model and consideration of WHY we are (each) committed to and invested in Sanctuary. What is at the core?

Joanna motioned to suspend this meeting to be continued at a date to be determined.

There was no discussion. Seconded by Lisa Parker. **Call to vote: All in favor - most aye/yes, 0 opposed, 1 abstention.**

9. Joanna closed us in prayer at 12:05 pm.

10. Some members opted to remain after the official meeting close to view a 5-minute video by Simon Sinek – StartWithWhy.com, about *Knowing Your WHY*.

In attendance:

1. Rev Wendy Miller Olapade
2. Joanna Begin, Moderator
3. Branwen Cook, Leadership Circle
4. Gini Berthiome, Leadership Circle
5. Liz Douglass, Leadership Circle
6. Brenda Briggs
7. Jenny Briggs
8. Jeff Smith
9. Kim Grubb
10. Kathy Williams
11. Deb DiSciullo
12. AJ Olapade
13. Charlene Carle
14. Rev. Tom Gerstenlauer
15. Ose Manheim
16. Erin Sennott
17. Joy Roberts
18. Bruce Roberts
19. Amy Bird
20. Carvina Williams
21. Lisa Parker
22. Fraelean Curtis (via Zoom telephone)
23. Valerie Washburn Geiselman joined the group at 11:40 am
24. Sheri Wilson (staff/non-member)