

CGSLC Council Meeting Minutes
Sunday, October 21, 2018 @ 11:45 a.m.

Attend: Theo, Laurie, Rebecca, Pr. Manda, Bob, Susan, Chuck, Kevin
Excused: Joe, Tom, Jean

1. Minutes & Agenda approval
 - a. September minutes were approved by email
 - b. The agenda approval was moved, seconded, and approved
2. Stewardship Report
 - a. Benevolences Task Force
 - i. Action: a motion was made, seconded, and approved for the contributions as described in the 2018 Budgeted Benevolences document
 - b. 2018 Financials
 - i. Kevin shared that our general giving is lower than what it has been in the past; we're also below budget by a lot this year (we're 27% behind budget and 13% behind 2017 giving)
 - ii. We have also had much less gain on investment this year than we did in 2017,
 - iii. Some stewardship ideas are
 1. Share how giving is down (possible announcement during service)
 2. Pledge cards for next year
 3. We will continue the discussion next month
 4. Need to identify a long-term solution to stewardship ministry including assessing the roles of treasurer, finance ministry, finance secretary, and council
 - iv. Action: a motion to publish in the newsletter the graph of financial information (Net income: Operations only, no investments) was made, seconded, and approved; Kevin will email Laura with this graph and she will format it and publish it in the newsletter and print it out for the bulletin board.
3. Carden lease
 - a. The lease would begin in January 2019 and go through August and will have an option to renew starting on August 1, 2019 in order to get on their academic schedule
 - b. The use of the premises is clarified in this lease
 - c. With this lease there would be enforceable expectations such as for nonpayment, etc.
 - d. Action: the council moved, seconded, and approved for Pastor Manda to meet with the head of Carden School to present the revised lease for signing; Pastor Manda is authorized to set up either bi-monthly or monthly payments; if the head of school will not sign the entire lease, including the addendum, an eviction will proceed, with Carden School to be evicted by the end of 2018; if a question

comes up about different facility uses, Pastor Manda has permission to propose the option for \$6,700, which would involve Carden School no longer using the church parsonage

4. MAP Survey Results (with Kristin)

- a. We had 82% of average weekly attendees respond to the online survey (58 people took the survey)
- b. Kristin asked that the council be communicative with the congregation about the survey results
- c. The task force will write up an executive summary and share it with the congregation
- d. The online survey goes wide, while the in-person interviews go deep
- e. Things to look for are “agree or strongly agree” responses; if a lot of people are strongly disagreeing or undecided, that means this is something to look at
- f. Some “places” the church can be
 - i. Stationary - low energy; we’re kind of stuck and don’t know where to go next
 - ii. Nostalgic - enjoying comfort, not wanting to go anywhere
 - iii. Puzzled - good energy but moving in lots of directions without much unity
 - iv. Possibilities - things are aligned, there’s good energy, there’s a sense of where we’re going
 - v. For us: we’re close to possibilities but also somewhat puzzled
- g. Belonging
 - i. Generally there’s a strong sense of belonging in the corporate sense, but less so on how people get engaged with the community personally
- h. Excitement
 - i. There’s a good sense of excitement in terms of how the congregation is making a difference in people’s lives
- i. Culture
 - i. This relates to permeability, respect, and trust
 - ii. It may be difficult for new people to know how to engage with the ministries of the congregation (e.g., where to go in order to learn how to grow in faith in different ways)
 - iii. We need to work on creating forms of way-finding or navigation for people and also benefit from their own gifts, skills, and passions
 - iv. We have room for growth in the perceived transparency of leaders in their decision-making, as well as means of feedback
- j. Ministry practice
 - i. Faith integration came out very strong
 - ii. Our numbers on a clear sense of purpose are less strong
 - iii. Numbers for educational opportunities participation are also low
 - iv. Numbers for people telling others about how God is active in my life are also low
- k. Readiness for change

- i. Quite a few people are on the fence about whether new ideas are supported in the congregation
 - ii. Many people are not sure about making changes in the next 6 months, but this is ok because there's not a sense that things are broken and urgently in need of addressing
 - I. Priorities
 - i. The first priority was actually entrepreneurial, which is a good sign
 - m. Stewardship
 - i. It's a good sign that personal faith and engaging/reaching out are the most influential factors in influencing giving
 - n. Overall takeaways
 - i. Solid sense of belonging
 - ii. Need for more cohesive sense of community
 - iii. Strong personal faith and daily life
 - iv. Need for clarity of purpose
 - v. Room to grow in stewardship
 - vi. Leaders continue to communicate
 - o. Ideas
 - i. Mission minutes (announcement about good things happening related to our mission and impact, which we make during offering time)
 - ii. People are motivated not so much by what you do but why you do it (outermost circle is all the various things we do; next circle in is how we do things; innermost circle is why we do things, and this is the job of the leadership of the congregation, helping people to connect the "what's" with the "why's"; otherwise people turn the "what's" into idols rather than being centered on the "why's")
 - iii. A good first step would be to name and communicate the things we're currently working on
 - iv. Do a fun activity with Breeze to get people to use it more
- 5. 2019 Budget discussion
 - a. We will approve the budget next month and focus on it and other things we need to prepare for the congregational meeting
 - b. Next month's council meeting will be longer in order to have this discussion
- 6. November congregational meeting
 - a. We will give an update on the narrative budget
 - b. There will be an executive summary of the listening study
 - c. Announcement about the benevolences
 - d. Invite ministry leaders to present about what their groups did this year
 - e. Nominations for next year's council
- 7. Pastor Manda's 2018 Review
 - a. Executive committee has agreed to spearhead this for this year
 - b. Please let us know if you have input
 - c. The goal is to have it done before Thanksgiving
- 8. Council input for annual report

- a. We will put this online, looking for input for Laura and Pr. Manda as they start working on this
- 9. Closing prayer
 - a. Laurie closed the meeting in prayer