

Alamo Heights UMC
Board of Stewards – Minutes
April 18, 2024
5:00 pm in W100

Members in Attendance: David Kinder, Jason Adams, Steve Waters, Johnny Boyd, Dan St. Romain, Doran Dennis, Brian Griffin, Charles Johnson, Hill Ojeda, Roger Lind, Pat Crump, Jeff Guillory, Janet Weatherston, Ryan Jacobson, Linda Baumheckel, Valerie Slade (via Zoom), Laura Peel (Secretary)

Welcome David Kinder
Called meeting the meeting to order at 5:04pm

Prayer Janet Weatherston

Approval of March Minutes David Kinder
There were no corrections.
Dan St. Romain moved to approve. Brian Griffin seconded the motion.
March minutes were approved.

Finance Report Johnny Boyd/
Jeff Guillory

Jeff went through the Financial Report handouts given to the board (see attached).

He gave these highlights:

March projections for general revenue, we set high. This year had 5 Sundays. For this year we did not exceed projections. Came in 47k below projections. We had some very large givers who reduced giving (one who passed away). Will take some time to pick up where the holes were.

Plate cash – 20% above where we were last year.

Household givers - # of households at 344 are higher than previous Marches. But need to compare to 5 Sunday months last year. Pretty much in line with previous 5 Sunday months.

Summary report: Compare actual to year to date. Currently 80% above from actual where we were in 2023.

Savings in administrative expenses.

Programs were in line with what we planned spending. 14% below what we planned.

Did not pay full apportionment this month due to reduction in income.

Charts: Jeff explained the charts and that they will be a quarterly report he provides. The charts give info on household giving for 1st quarter of 2024.

Trustees Steve Waters

Thanked Thad Ziegler for stepping up in his absence last month.

- Capital Expenditures Update
 1. Boiler: The one we had is as old as this building. Total cost of the boiler is just under 260k. It will be done in 2 parts. We have paid half of the total cost. Funding is coming out of the Capital Expenditures account.
 2. Building Washing – current plan is to clean in 2 phases. Cost will be around 150k - EFIS (Exterior insulation and finish system)
- NE Property Town Hall – March 6 Town Hall was held – this one talked about the change, the different path we’ve taken from ground lease to sale of property. Another Town Hall will be held this Sunday, April 21 during the 9:45 hour.
- Grow Together Campaign – Possible capital campaign to give some love to the property that God has entrusted to us. Collective stewardship responsibility is to take care of this building. Working on priority list of repairs, improvements, maintaining.
 - *Jason added: A lot of deferred maintenance. Way of addressing some issues we have. A main goal is becoming more handicap accessible. Want to reflect the qualities & values of our church. Trustees putting a campaign proposal together and taking it to the Finance committee before taking it to the Congregation. Looking at a company called Horizon that does campaigns like this for churches around the country. Can be a well-oiled machine if done right. Trustees have not voted yet to take this to the Finance Committee. This is all preliminary, but we are hoping to move along in this process and get this going.
 - Johnny Boyd asked what the steps are we go through on the sale of the property. Steve said that after this coming Town Hall, will then have to go to the District Strategy Team and make a pitch for the plan.
 - Charles Johnson asked if the funds of the sale are restricted or can some of them go to the capital campaign. Johnny suggested that we need to be careful with the timing of the sale vs. a Capital Campaign.
 - Valerie Slade said that the Operating Budget is needing to recover from the changes in the Foundation giving to the budget. These are 2 different projects.

Foundation

Roger Lind

Legacy Dinner Update

Roger thanked all who were able to come to the dinner last week. Seemed to be received well. Jason set the tone well by interviewing Jim Aycock, who was involved with the formation of the Foundation, and Valerie did well at closing with remarks on what the Foundation contributes to this church. They will next be meeting to discuss the next 2-year focus of the Foundation.

David Kinder asked about the next steps after the dinner. Roger said the dinner was sowing the seeds and others will be planning for things going forward. They did receive communications from people saying they are planning to support the foundation in the future.

Senior Pastor's Comments

Jason Adams

Just got through Easter. Sometimes want it to fall a little later – things kind of fall off after Easter. Great attendance in the services Easter Sunday.

He often gets asked about when we will bring back the 9:45 Sanctuary service. He feels like that we are seeing more people joining us online at that 9:45 time than we have coming in person. Currently we do not have the numbers of in-person to need to add another in-person service. Will most likely not be going backwards but will live into the new reality. How can we make our online experience more personal. Make sure sound quality is good online.

Charles Johnson asked about the mediation that was supposed to be done here the week of Easter. Jason said it did not actually happen here – was moved it to a more neutral site.

General Conference starts next week on April 23. Will go for about two weeks.

BOS Chair's Comments

David Kinder

Driving to work Monday morning. Got a text from Valerie. Wanted him to call her. Can't be good news. Best, bad news. Ryan Jacobson is leaving us – becoming the pastor of Leander UMC. David gave us some background on Ryan and his connection with this church. We will grieve his loss – he has served in various capacities at this church. It is a great opportunity for Ryan.

David asked for a vote on making a love offering to Ryan at an appropriate time. Johnny Boyd moved to approve a love offering; Pat Crump seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Staff updates: Donna Strieb is recovering from her knee surgery. She is doing well. Kacey Brewer will be having a scheduled c-section on Tuesday. And Jeff Guillory's wife is due on Sunday.

Closing Prayer – Jason closed the meeting in prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 5:58pm

Next meeting-May 16 at 5 pm