

Alamo Heights UMC
Board of Stewards – Minutes
September 19, 2024
5:00 pm in W100

In Attendance: Johnny Boyd, Carol Cauley, Pat Crump, Doran Dennis, Brian Griffin, Charles Johnson, Roger Lind, Hill Ojeda (by ZOOM), Jack Rodgers, Dan St. Romain, James L. Smith, Amy Willcox, Thad Ziegler, Helen Gross (Guest)

Staff in Attendance: Jason Adams, Linda Baumheckel, Lindsay Hannah, Valerie Slade, Darrell Smith, Donna Strieb, Janet Weatherston

Secretary: Renee Kizziar (Guest)

Welcome

Johnny Boyd

Johnny mentioned he was handling the meeting because David Kinder is out of town on business.

Prayer

Janet Weatherston

Approval of August Minutes

Johnny Boyd

Approved with a change to the header from “Agenda” to “Minutes”. Motion by Roger Lind, second by Brian Griffin.

Finance Report (attachment)

Lindsay Hannah

Using attached Financial Report, Lindsay highlighted:

Month to date

- General Revenue for the month exceeded budget because of some significant contributions.
- Interest returns were ahead of anticipated returns.
- Savings in the salaries/benefits continue as previously addressed.
- Program spending exceeded budget as a result of overhauling childrens’ rooms and worship space in anticipation of the new season. This had not been done for a few years. Bibles purchased for the third graders were better quality than previously purchased.

Year to date

- As a result of the contributions in General Revenue for August, the YTD General Revenues are, for the first time in 2024, ahead of budget.
- Maintenance YTD spending, which was previously addressed, exceeded budget because of (1) irrigation costs, (2) HVAC repairs, and (3) landscaping done before Easter.

Trustees

Val Slade

- Cleaning the building's exterior is complete except for near the Garden Chapel and the Columbarium Garden. These areas have such extensive plantings that the Church would like the owner of the contracting company to be present when the work is done.
- The replacement boiler, which was previously "lost", has been located and is in San Antonio. While this work was scheduled to be well in process, the benefit of the delay is that the construction activity will not be in the way for the 30th Anniversary celebration.
- Thanks to the Board of Stewards for approving the plan to sell the corner property. Kayce Brewer, Facilities Director, Val, and Steve Waters met with Corbin Barker and Hayley Ruggles of Endura Advisory Group to sign the commercial listing agreement. Much of the materials and work done this group did in connection with the previously intended leasing of the property can be re-used for this process. The intention is to ask the buyer to handle whatever re-zoning will be required.

Foundation

Roger Lind

The Foundation met on September 3 with this to report:

- Another \$250,000 has been "derisked". This was done in anticipation of the record levels of the equity markets not being sustainable. Approximately 12% of the Foundations funds are now in Fixed Income instruments. With this action the Foundation hopes to avoid the need to sell de-valued assets to meet its commitments to the Church. Lindsay reported that the \$250,000 will be invested with a Texas Methodist Foundation loan fund to return 4.9%.
- The Foundation Board discussed the Legacy Dinner. Linda asked if there had been responses as result of the dinner. Roger and/or Val have both received notices of gifts and notices of intentions to make gifts in wills.
- Plans for future communication efforts have been deferred to the 2025 Board for their action.
- The Foundation Board's meeting schedule has been changed. The Board will meet the last Tuesday of the month following the end of quarter. This will result in both a December 2024 and a January 2025 meeting. This schedule will allow the Foundation Board to have financial information as of the previous month and quarter end.

Schedule of Events for the 30th Anniversary

Valerie Slade

Val first praised the Church staff for the team work associated with planning this significant event. She then reviewed the many activities planned for Sunday, September 22:

- 51 special guests will be in attendance. Helen Hooper, widow of Rev. Jack Hooper is coming with guests. Rev. Dr. David McNitzky, who is scheduled to preach, is also coming with multiple guests.
- The 11 a.m. sanctuary service will involve blended worship from both the modern and traditional worship teams, and many generations of choirs.
- The theme is Honor the Past/Look to the Future.
- The Call to Worship has been designed for participation in generational groups: 60 and older, 25 to 59 years, then 24 years and younger.

- The Bell in the Columbarium Garden will be rung 30 times as the acolytes and ministers process to open the service.
- The Board of Stewards will present Rev. Dr. David McNitzky with a downsized replica of the cross that hangs over the altar in the sanctuary.
- At the end of the service there will be a group photo using a drone flown in the sanctuary. Adam Crowell has planned and will manage this process.
- A picnic style lunch will be served after the service. All are welcome at a cost of \$10 each.
- Rev. Donna Strieb has arranged to display historic memorabilia around the Atrium.
- Key chains with medallions will be offered on a first come basis. There are 420 of these available.
- Davis Sprinkle, from the architecture team for Basse Road, and Melville Mitchell, from the contracting firm for Basse Road, will attend.
- The “30 Year” testimony videos will play on a loop in the CLC during the lunch.

Senior Pastor’s Comments

Jason Adams

- Jason talked about how blessed the Church is to have such an outstanding staff and what a wonderful experience it has been to plan the anniversary celebration.
- The next process for the Church year will be nominations. These are to be ready for the Annual Church Charge Conference. This year’s Charge Conference will be on December 8 at St. Matthews United Methodist. District Superintendent Ortiz has planned this as a “cluster conference”. This style is intended to motivate various congregations and to share ideas.
- After 2023’s consecutive events of both a Fall and Christmas Festival, the staff have decided to focus on a 2024 Fall Festival in lieu of having both events. Scheduled for Sunday, October 20, from 4 to 6 p.m., this is meant to involve all groups in the Church. Rev. Baumheckel commented that even the Juniper Village staff have plans to be involved. Juniper Village’s involvement results from outreach efforts to that facility. There is a regular Wednesday worship on location and 8 to 10 residents of the facility attend the Thursday Lunch Bunch. Gina Beal will coordinate logistics for this event.

Closing Prayer

Darrell Smith

Next meeting-October 17, at 5 pm in W100