**CUMC/WESLEY FOUNDATION**

**CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES**

**June 25, 2020**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**Members Present:** Brenda Allen, Denny Coon, Adam Faeth, Jennifer Plagman-Galvin, Jane Jacobson, Jason Janssen, Gerry Kennedy, David Orth, Mary Wickham, Steve Williams

**Members Absent:** Jen Hibben

**Staff Present:** Lindsay Drake, Lauren Loonsfoot

**Call to Order**

Chair Orth called the meeting together at 7:03 p.m.. He announced that Jodi Risdal had resigned from the Ministries Council and would therefore no longer be a member of this group. He said that she will continue to chair the Sending to Serve committee.

The meeting attendees took turns sharing answers to the question, “How is it with your soul?” Drake provided an opening prayer.

Chair Orth asked the council to review the minutes of the May 28, 2020 meeting. Kennedy suggested a clarification under the Apportionments Subcommittee update. He said the last sentence in the second paragraph should read, “people who were vocally opposed.”

**A motion was made (Allen) and seconded (Jacobson) to approve the minutes of the May 28, 2020 meeting with that correction. Motion passed.**

**Endowment Board Overview**

Wickham presented an overview of the Endowment Board at Collegiate Wesley. The CUMC/WF Endowment Fund was established in 1987 as a separate non-profit organization, and Collegiate Wesley is one of a handful of churches in the Iowa Annual Conference that has a separately incorporated endowment fund. The Endowment Board oversees the management of the fund, and awards endowment grants from the fund.

A question was raised on the Dennis Byrne Endowment Fund. Collegiate Wesley also has the Byrne Endowment Fund, which was created by Dennis Byrne. The Byrne agreement governs how its funds are to be used. The Byrne agreement specifies that the Endowment Board oversees the management of the Byrne fund investments.

Collegiate Wesley has a Byrne Team, formed within the Sending to Serve cluster, that recommends how to distribute grants from the Byrne fund. The Byrne Fund grant recommendations are brought to Sending to Serve, and then to Church Council for approvals.

**COVID-19 Tactical Team Update**

Pastor Coon said that after the team met the first time, the members went back to meet with their respective groups within the church and reported back. One of the surprises was that there were several groups that use the western property that were continuing to use that space. The team put together a set of expectations for people using that space based on current public health recommendations.

Also, since the last time council met, the church had a contract worker test positive for COVID-19. One member of the staff had come in direct contact with that person and started a 14-day quarantine.

Pastor Coon presented a set of 11 expectations that the team developed for people using the church property. These expectations were based on recommendations from Story County Health, Iowa Public Health Department, and the Center for Disease Control. Jacobson asked whether the guidelines also applied to the Annex. Jacobson suggested we might limit the guideline about contacting people who have come in direct contact with an individual who tested positive for COVID-19 to those who the person may have come into contact at the church or Annex. Drake also said that she observed members of the congregation who have keys entering the building while it was closed. She said that means there are people entering the building that we do not know about.

Plagman-Galvin asked how this policy aligned with the organizations within the Annex. Pastor Coon said that work was ongoing.

Cathy Halverson sent the tactical team a letter requesting she be allowed to open Clothing that Works. Pastor Coon said that they have a plan in place for reopening safely that aligns with the proposed guidelines for the church and the tactical team voted to approve that request.

Wickham said she did not think that the council needed to vote on this decision because it empowered the Tactical Team to make this kind of decision. Pastor Williams said he thought Pastor Coon could take back the discussion from this meeting to the tactical team to let them know they are supported and appreciated.

The Church Council was supportive of the recommendation from the Tactical Team to reopen Clothing That Works.

Chair Orth asked Pastor Coon if Pastor Lautzenhiser Bellon was taking over his spot on the Tactical Team at the end of the Month. Pastor Coon said that she was.

**Property Needs Assessment Update**

Plagman-Galvin said that the subcommittee started to meet virtually with the Ministries Council, Administrative Council, and Church Staff to start to gather information. She said they met with Ministries Council so far and planned to meet with Administrative Council next. She said they are waiting to meet with staff until Pastor Lautzenhiser Bellon starts. Chair Orth said that these groups are a starting point, and the subcommittee is still looking for ways to include other people within the church.

**Church Structure Document Update**

Allen said that the church structure document was updated to incorporate the feedback from the previous Church Council meeting and drop the structure diagram. Wickham said that the Church Council has a description of the kinds of decisions it can make and asked whether the Administrative Council and Ministries Council would benefit from a similar statement. Allen said she thought that this was covered by the first statement under the Ministries Council, “… assure that the church is fulﬁlling its purpose and picture as they coordinate the work of the ministry groups.”

Kennedy suggested an edit under the nominations section related to the Lay Members to Annual Conference, and Lay Leader. He suggested changing the third person’s position to a Lay Member because elsewhere the document refers to two Lay Leaders.

Chair Orth said that the Church Council description was missing the Wesley Foundation Chair in the membership description. He said it appears in the membership list later in the document.

Drake asked the council whether it was important for the representatives from the Endowment Board and Wesley Board be the chair, or could it be any consistent representative from those boards. Kennedy said that in previous committees where we have members from other groups on a committee, the chair could designate a consistent person to attend in their place. Allen said she thinks the wording is fine the way it is and if the chair was not able to attend, they could designate a representative.

**A motion was made (Kennedy) and seconded (Plagman-Galvin) to approve the church structure document. Motion passed.**

Drake said she was planning to send the structure document out to the leaders within the church so they can start to work on the nominations process. Chair Orth said the documents should also be posted on the website. Wickham suggested also putting a link to the document in the Communicator.

**Nominations Update**

Allen, Plagman-Galvin, and Chair Orth presented a table of leadership positions within the Church Council, Administrative Council, and Ministries Council. Plagman-Galvin said that they are working to fill the roles of Chair Elect on all three councils. The nominations subcommittee brainstormed some ideas for the Chair Elect positions, but they have not found anyone to say yes yet. Chair Orth asked the council to submit any suggestions to the nominations committee (Chair Orth, Allen, Pastor Lautzenhiser Bellon, Plagman-Galvin, Loonsfoot).

Loonsfoot said the nominations subcommittee also brainstormed a way to start to involve youth in the clusters and committees within the church.

**Leadership Development Update**

Drake said there was nothing new to report at this time.

**General Conference Update**

Drake said that General Conference was supposed to take place in May, but that was postponed due to COVID-19. The Iowa Annual Conference plans to meet virtually on July 18, 2020. The General Conference was rescheduled for August 2021. The jurisdictional conference must occur within two months of General Conference, so it would need to be held by November 2021. Drake said that there were pretty significant changes planned like reducing the overall number of bishops.

**Farewell to Pastor Coon**

The council expressed their appreciation for Pastor Coon. Loonsfoot said that there is a reverse parade planned for Sunday, June 28, 2020. People will drive by in their cars to express their appreciation and say farewell.

**Adjourn**

Pastor Coon provided the closing prayer. The meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m..

Respectfully Submitted,

Adam Faeth, Secretary