**WESLEY FOUNDATION BOARD MEETING – January 15, 2023**

**Attendance:** Brian Brand (chair), Jill Brand, Jason Janssen (treasurer), Darin Johnson, Trish Johnson, John Jacobson, Mike King, Mitch Hoyer, Lewis Cox (campus minister), Pastor Mary Bellon. Guest – Jane Jacobson.

Brian Brand called the first meeting of 2023 to order at 11:18.

**December 2022 Minutes:** Jason Janssen questioned the amount Wesley will receive from the Iowa Annual Conference. The minutes listed $15,000. Jason reported that it has been $7500. Pastor Mary Bellon explained that the Conference has money from the sale of the Wesley Foundation at Drake University which may result in additional money to be distributed between the Wesley Foundations at ISU and UNI. Mike King noted a typo in the By-Laws discussion. It should be one set of by-laws not “on set”. The minutes were approved with this correction.

**Financial Reports:**

* **December 2021:** Janssen explained that there were no meetings of the Wesley Board during 2022, hence the December 2021 financial report still needed to be approved. John Jacobson moved to approve as presented. Mike King seconded. Approved.
* **December 2022:**
	+ Janssen reported that the Wesley Foundation budget ended 2022 with a net income of $5147.97. The annual budget was projected to have a net loss of $25,550. Jason credited Lauren Loonsfoot with doing an excellent job of staying within the programming budget.
	+ King asked about money from District askings. Janssen explained that those stopped at mid-year. Note: Collegiate/Wesley changed districts in 2022. Janssen will adjust where that money is reported on the financial report. He will submit a revised December 2022 report at the February meeting for approval.
* **Proposed 2023 Budget**
	+ Janssen presented a proposed budget for 2023. He noted that shared expense, essentially the salary for Lewis Cox, is still being determined by the CW Finance Committee (scheduled to meet on 1/17/23). The projected deficit is $25,500. This can be covered by funds in savings.
	+ Janssen explained that the Wesley Foundation Board must approve any expenditures from the Wesley Foundation Reserve account. It currently has a balance of $105,036.
		- *Action Item: In February Board will consider whether to make approvals on a monthly basis in 2023 or to authorize expenditures through 2023.*
	+ 2023 will be a transitional budget model pending discussions with CW Finance Committee on how to budget for both Collegiate and Wesley in the future.
	+ The Board brainstormed several ideas for an Alumni outreach campaign in 2023. Suggestions are listed in addendum following the minutes.

**Endowment Grants:** Jane Jacobson announced that the CW Endowment Board is now accepting grant proposals for 2023. She encouraged Wesley to apply.

**Lewis Cox: Vision for Wesley Foundation Ministry**

Lewis Cox, newly hired Campus Minister, shared his vision for the Wesley Foundation.

* Mission: To create disciples of Jesus Christ among 18 – 24-year-olds in Ames. The focus is the Iowa State campus, but not exclusively.
* What makes Wesley unique?
	+ Size: the size of the group fosters individual relationships. Cox sees the ministry growing from one-on-one relationships to small groups to a larger connected cohort. Cox noted that this is part of the Wesleyan tradition of small growing to large.
	+ Inclusive, progressive, justice-focused ministry.
* Spring 2023 plans
	+ Participate in Club Fest and Org Fest.
	+ Utilizing Planning Center to allow for texting and other social media promotion. May require increasing the budget for this.
	+ One-on-one with students.
	+ Creating a location in the gathering center or narthex where students can access Wesley information.
	+ Small groups
		- Using the Awakened Life curriculum
		- Utilizing established student leaders and developing new ones for fall
	+ Spring retreat – date to be determined later

The Board engaged in a lively discussion of possible activities to increase the visibility of Wesley to new students for Fall 2023 and to pastors and church leaders within the Iowa Annual Conference. Ideas are listed in addendum following the minutes.

**Wesley Place Future:**  Cox is deeply committed to intentional Christian communities and the impact that they have on the lives of young adults who experience them. He recommended that the community living in Wesley Place be suspended for the 2023-2024 academic year. During that time, he can do a reset on the program, the purpose, the recruitment. It will also provide other CW groups such as Trustees, Finance, and Church Council with time to assess CW’s vision of the property. Pastor Bellon suggested a visioning meeting this spring with all groups to start developing that plan.

After a robust discussion Cox made the following motion seconded by Jacobson. To take a year away from residents in Wesley Place beginning on June 1, 2023. The motion passed unanimously. The current residents will be informed immediately that they will need to vacate by May 31, 2023.

Pastor Bellon closed the meeting with prayer at 1:15.

-summarized by Jane R Jacobson

**ADDENDUM TO JANUARY MINUTES – SUMMARIES OF BRAINSTORMING**

**Alumni Outreach**

* Contact previous Campus Ministers to develop a message (possibly video) to send to alumni with whom they worked. Gary Putnam has something prepared.
* Host an alumni event. This could be linked with ISU Homecoming 2023 when alums may already be planning to be on campus. Consider offering free parking for the football game in CW lots and transport to the stadium.

**Spring 2023 – Introduce Lewis Cox and reintroduce Wesley**

* Large banner photo of Cox that can be placed in various areas of church building to introduce him to students and congregants.
* Develop a Wesley Welcome space, especially for Sunday mornings, where students can gather information about Wesley ministries and opportunities.
* Videos of Cox and also of students in action to be played prior to weekly services and possibly on screens in building during the week.
* Some type of branding in the student lounge space.

**Summer 2023 Outreach Activities**

* Offer tours during Orientation sessions, both transfer and first-year.
* Spread word of Wesley to local pastors, mailing or other media options.
* Messages to entering students.
* Message to parents in early August.
* Display or table at Iowa Annual Conference. Staffed by students or Wesley Board.

**Bishop’s Installation – February 19**

CW is hosting the installation of the new Bishop of the Iowa Annual Conference, Kennetha Bigham-Tsai, on February 19. It will draw clergy and interested persons from across the state offering a unique opportunity to showcase Wesley.

* Meeting of Cox with members of Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry, possibly in the Fireside Room, prior to the event.
* Play videos of Cox and students on the sanctuary screens as people arrive.
* Brochures or other handouts available to guests.
* Xavier Johnson will be carrying the cross during the processional.
* Have students present and in visible roles.
* Information table in Wesley Hall during the reception following the installation.