

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES
February 16, 2016, 6:30 PM

Trustees Present: H Aibel, MJ Cross, S Axthelm T Croarkin, L Shannon, A Khanna, KC Senie

Trustees Absent: J Turmelle

Visitors: B Stuck (NLDC), M Bishop (COM), M Money (YRSC), J Mason (Constitution), W McEvoy (COM, Const. task force), Rev J Morehouse, D Adams (Dir. Ops)

Meeting called to order 6:34pm. T Croarkin did a centering reading. Trustees did check-in. No observer Comments

Consent Agenda: B&G policy removed. L Shannon & H Aibel moved to accept remainder of Consent Agenda; passed unanimously.

- January Board minutes– approved
- Email votes on NLDC & Communication Committee-ratified
- Council of Churches Membership-approved

Other Reports - Informational

- Senior Minister report – J Morehouse
- B&G Committee report – C Colletti
- January Financial dashboard – A Khanna

2016 Pledge Drive Plan: M Money gave an overview of the pledge drive schedule and requested Board pledges.

Constitution Revision Task Force: MJ Cross reviewed the Constitution Revision Task Force's DRAFT of proposed revisions. She noted that what the Task Force prepared is a very broad scope of changes to our current Constitution including some controversial sections that are being presented to the Board only for reaction and feedback. She then led a discussion.

After a lengthy reaction to several of the sections in the DRAFT document, the Board requests the Task Force to present to the congregation only the governance/ministry role changes from among the sections in this first DRAFT. Education and feedback sessions open to the congregation on the Proposed Constitution Revision led by members of the Task Force are scheduled in March and April. Meetings are also being scheduled with Elected Committees to review proposed changes that impact their scope, accountabilities and responsibilities.

Revised DRAFT documents will be brought to the Board in March and April. At the April meeting, Board approval will be requested in order for the Task Force to bring a Board approved DRAFT of Proposed Changes to the congregation for discussion, further amendments and vote on May 15.

Action Items:

1. Language that is targeted to be removed from the Constitution, to become part of Governance Policies, will be brought to the Board and Congregation for review.

2. Howard Aibel will ask D Thompson to investigate the legal risk the board and congregation have with Endowment being separate from the board, which has the fiduciary responsibility for the Congregation's money.

Due to the lateness of the hour, the Policy Briefing and Progress Review on 2015-16 Goals were tabled due to lack of sufficient time.

Communications (T Croarkin) – Announcement will be sent to the congregation re attending the GA/Metro meetings.

Upcoming Soundings articles:

- March - introduce revisions to the Constitution;
- April – B&G picture of next year or two;
- May – meaning of membership;
- June - Ministry and Governance wrap up (progress toward goals for this year and plans for goals next year).

Town Hall schedule:

- March 6 – Canvass; COM
- April 24 – Constitution Revisions;
- May 29 - Budget/finance preview.

New Business – none.

Old Business: Mission / Vision Task Force report will be sent to board for inclusion in policy discussion at March meeting.

Review of 2015-16 Goals and Policies discussion will be main topics for the March meeting.

Executive Session: MJ Cross/H Aibel moved to go into executive session. Passed unanimously. S Axthelm/H Aibel moved to go out of executive session. Passed unanimously.

B&G Policy: It was agreed by the board that S Axthelm will work with staff and B&G Committee to redraft a high level ends policy for board approval.

Process Observation by S Axthelm; closing words by T Croarkin.
Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary-Jane Cross, Board Clerk