

9/24/15 Minutes -- Strategic Leadership Council

St. John United Church of Christ

Meeting duration: 4:35 pm – 6:35 pm

Attending: Melissa Stephens (chair), Theo Baldwin, Stan Bowling, Louise Hall, Dale Sexton, Pastor Keith Haithcock

Prayer and Preparation

Meeting opened with a meditation and prayer by Stan. All read the St. John Vision and Mission.

Consensus Items approved: August SLC Minutes, 9/24/15 SLC Agenda, 9/3/15 OMG minutes, Treasurer's Report. Treasurer's Report.

- Treasurer's Report: Dale Sexton reviewed highlights of the Treasurer's Report, including current account balances, bills to be paid, and status of the loan (paid by Ludwig bequest).

Executive Session

SLC voted to enter into executive session to discuss recent communications concerns. The executive session began at 5:03 pm and ended at 5:12 pm.

Proposals, Presentations, Planning

President-Elect (Melissa)

- Melissa led discussion on status and progress to date for securing a President-Elect candidate. We are still in need of a willing person to serve in this capacity for the current year.
- ACTION: Pastor Keith will contact a potential person.

Food Service in the Sanctuary (Pastor Keith)

- Discussion on allowing food on the new carpet. SLC agreed to continue allowing food.
- ACTION: Melissa will ask OMG to prepare guidelines for food, in light of the new carpet.

Church Grounds Recommendation (Dale)

- Dale has agreed to serve as church grounds coordinator for the coming year.
- Church-wide clean-up day on November 7 (starting at 10-am), including a full clean-up of the church grounds for the winter. Dale would like to continue to hold clean-up days on the 1st Saturday in future years.
- Dale plans to place nativity scene near the main church sign (vs. rain garden area). He requests the following: 1) cut down the bushes located on either side of the main church sign, and 2) install an electrical outlet at the sign.

- MOTION to grant Pastor Keith the authority to contact the electrician and arrange for repair of parking lot spotlights and to install an external outlet near the church main sign. Stan moved, Louise second. Motion passed.

Flag Display Policy (Melissa)

- Melissa led discussion on the existing Flag Display Policy, which was originally approved by the Church Council on May 2, 2004. No changes were proposed in the current discussion. By acclamation, SLC re-affirmed the existing policy.

Key Policy (Melissa)

- ACTION: Dale will review the policy and bring a proposal for presentation at the October SLC meeting.

Remote Access Security Policy (Melissa)

- Melissa delegated review of this policy to Mitch Leigh, and he will prepare a proposal for presentation at the October SLC meeting.

Additional Proposed Policies (Melissa)

- Melissa assigned other proposed policies (finance, retention, alcohol, personnel, emergency ops) to SLC members for review and presentation at future meetings.

Proposals, Presentations, Planning

Committee Appointments (Melissa)

- Melissa presented the following annual committee chair appointments for SLC approval:
 - OMG (Outreach Missions Group) – Willie Tackett
 - Finance – Dean Griffith
 - Chancel – Pat Giglia and Doug Baldrige (co-chairs)
 - Pastor Relations Committee – Robert Moreland
 - Building Coordinator – Donna Hoffman
 - Parking Lot Coordinator – Joe Cox
 - Grounds Coordinator – Dale Sexton
- MOTION: Stan moved to accept the list of committee chairs, Louise second. Motion passed.

Installation of Lighting for Avenue Stage (Melissa)

- Melissa distributed an update proposal for discussion and clarification.
- ACTION: Melissa and Pastor Keith will bring forth additional questions and needs to Donna Hoffman. Discussion will continue at the October SLC meeting.

Carpeting Installation Project follow-ups (Melissa)

- Fundraising more than exceeded the amount necessary to fund the carpeting project.
- MOTION: Louise moved that the \$650 bill for cleaning and waxing of the concrete be paid from the carpet installation funds. Stan second. Motion passed.

Chancel Space Arrangements

- Pastor Keith suggested that we not return modesty rails to the Chancel area, on a trial period. SLC affirmed this decision.
 - Chancel Choir receives copies of hymns, and will not need hymnals in racks. A few Bibles can remain on or under pews. If necessary, racks can be installed under the pews, if it is determined that modesty rails will not return to the Chancel space.
 - This Chancel space is much more flexible without rails, which opens up the space for weddings and other special events.
 - For added flexibility, it was suggested that chairs be used instead of the front pews in the Chancel space.

Adjournment: Dale moved to adjourn, Stan second. Motion passed.

Next SLC meeting is Thursday, October 24, 2015, starting at 4:30 pm.

Minutes recorded by: Theo Baldwin, SLC Secretary