

The February meeting of the Board of Stewards of Crosby United Methodist Church was held Tuesday, February 22, 2021.

Members Attending:

Skip Greenwade (Presiding)  
James Malac  
Randy Foster  
Melody Mendez  
Al Jamail  
Johnnie Miley  
Jamie Lea  
Danny Eppers  
Ray Reese, non-voting, Rec. Secretary  
Jackie Baumbach  
Willie Thompson (by Zoom)  
Amanda Schriewer (by Zoom)  
Anne Till (by Zoom)

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 by Vice Chairperson Skip Greenwade. Skip opened with prayer. A quorum was declared.

A motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting was made by Danny Eppers. Johnnie Miley second. An affirmative unanimous vote approved the minutes.

Revision 5 of the Crosby United Methodist Board of Stewards Guiding Principles and Operating Guidelines was presented to members. Members were asked to review the document and sign the covenant page and return it to Ray Reese.

## **SECTION REPORTS**

### **Finance**

Finance reporting was given by Ray Reese. Ray reported that revenue was down about \$4000 from previous months. Expenses were inline with budgeted amounts. Expenses Insurance, basic payroll expenses, pastoral reimbursements, and the stipend were accrued. All reports were provided directly from QuickBooks without importing them into Excel. The new format for the investment reports was favorable received by the Board of Stewards. It was recommended that the Pastor Stiped by relabeled to "Parsonage Stiped" since the Pastor is not currently being compensated with a stipend. This will avoid any potential tax liability issues. The financial reports for the Weekday School were reviewed. The counterproposal for the reimbursement of expenses for the Weekday School was reviewed. Amanda Schriewer made a motion to accept the counterproposal. Melody Mendez second the motion. A unanimous affirmative vote approved the counterproposal. Expenses will begin being reimbursed in September 2021.

### **Trustees**

The trustee report was presented by Willie Thompson. Willie went over the proposal to update the existing A/V system. This proposal recommends purchasing all equipment necessary to update all

existing audio/visual needs for the Church. The proposal also recommends creating a virtual Board Room space. Discussion on the proposal highlighted cost concerns with tables and chairs for the Board Room. It was recommended that white plastic tables be purchased for this room, at approx.. \$55 ea, and existing chairs be utilized. This will result in a savings of \$4500.00. Amanda Schriewer asked for clarification regarding intended funding. Ray Reese informed the Board that the intention was to fund this project out of cash-on-hand. After discussion regarding the relevance of the need, intended uses for the room, how the room would benefit other groups in the Church, and how the room would be a managed, Al Jamail made a motion to approve the proposal, as amended, to allow purchases of all audio-visual upgrades needed for approximately \$14,000, to be funded through cash-on-hand. James Malac second the motion. A unanimous vote approved the motion.

The second item presented by the trustees for consideration was the proposal to complete concrete work around the Church. This proposal was previously submitted to the Board and totals \$32000. The proposal was covered in detail highlighting the scope of the work to be performed. Various derivations were explored.

It was decided that an informational email would be sent to the Church Members, apprising them of the need for the repair and calling for funds to assist with the funding of the project. Said funds would be given “above and beyond” regular giving or could be given in memoriam. It was discussed that the contractor could be placed on notice of the Church’s intent to move forward with the project with a time frame being June 1. This would allow time for the Church to participate in a capital campaign for this project. Danny Eppers made the motion to approve the proposal and contact the contractor to inform him of the intent to move forward with the work. The communication with the contractor would include a caveat that would let him know that we were attempting to raise funds, and should something happen, we reserve the right to cancel the project. Randy Foster seconded the motion. A majority affirmative vote was taken. The motion was approved. Funding for this project will be discussed at a later meeting.

### **SPRC**

The SPRC report was given by Melody Mendez. Melody asked Ray Reese if a QuickBooks training program had been located so that Ray Reese and Beverly Pipes could be trained. Ray informed the Board that the training that was necessary was an advanced program with a cost of \$600 per attendee. Ray indicated that due to the cost, it was felt that only one of them would attend the training and then would train the other. Melody Mendez stated that she felt the expense was justifiable and made the motion that \$1200 be allocated for both Ray Reese and Beverly Pipes to become QuickBooks certified. Jackie Baumbach seconded the motion. An affirmative unanimous vote approved the vote. Ray Reese will coordinate with Beverly so that they can move forward with the training.

### **Generosity—no activity**

### **Kids Hope**

Karen reported that volunteers presented Kid’s Hope participants with Valentine’s Day gifts. They were well received. School officials are working to put together a protocol for facilitating zoom meetings between participants and volunteers.

## **Youth**

Melody Mendez reported that Youth has resumed meeting. youth are currently meeting on Sunday evenings in the FLC and are divided into two groups according to age. The Youth have decided that they would like to form a Youth Music Ministry team. A meeting will be scheduled with Youth Leaders and Church leaders to discuss the logistics of the program.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The Board was provided with recommendations from the Nominations Committee. It was recommended that Collie Smith be considered to fill the remaining At-Large Board Position. Jamie Lea made the motion to accept this recommendation. Johnnie Miley second the motion. A unanimous vote was confirmed Collie Smith as the new Board Member serving in an At-Large Member capacity.

Pastor Jamie Lea remarked that since Youth has begun to meet and in preparation for Youth related Summer activities, it is necessary for adults involved in Church activities to be Safe Sanctuary certified. The list of previous affiliated parties was provided. The necessary people will be provided with a link so that they can complete the Safe Sanctuary training class. Pastor Lea will complete background checks on those individuals who have not already had one.

Pursuant to the communication guidelines for the Board of Stewards, a Town Hall Meeting will be held March 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30. This meeting will be held both in-person and virtually. The topics will be the state of finances and ministries of the Church. The office will hold a “dry run” version of this webinar so that individuals can work on the kinks in their system and improve their familiarity with the process. The office will determine the date for the dry run webinar.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Ray Reese presented a cash management proposal which proposed to move unutilized funds that are currently held in the Community Bank of Texas account (at no interest) to an interest-bearing account or investment strategy. After much discussion, a motion was made by Johnnie Miley to move \$10K from CBT to Independence bank. This account will earn 1.49% APY. This motion also included the approval to apply for an Independence Bank VISA card. A second was received by Danny Eppers. An affirmative unanimous vote approved the motion.

## **PASTOR REPORT**

Pastor Jamie reminded the Board that our Church is very fortunate to have noticed very little hardship during the Pandemic. He stated that many churches have not been able to survive and added that the expectation is that many more will not. He praised the existing infrastructure and everyone’s desire to upgrade it to accommodate necessary changes. He noted that there were more than 100 individuals in Church the previous Sunday. He also reported that there was minimal damage sustained during the ice storm. He stressed the importance of the Town Hall Meeting. He also praised the congregation for their love and devotion to one another. He commented that there were Church members fixing the pipes of other Church members. He reminded the Board members to please complete their Covenant Agreements and return them to Ray Reese.

A motion was made at 9:00pm to adjourn by Danny Eppers. Al Jamail second the motion. The meeting was adjourned.