

Rush Church Board of Trustees' Meeting Minutes – February 10, 2022

Present: Geoff Furman, Cindy Gray, Paul Kingsley, Dick Wallace

Opening Prayer: Cindy

Building Update:

- Approved updated mask mandate as recommended by NY UMC Conference. Agreed with Steve Williams' wording for Rush Tidings.
- Reviewed current list of maintenance issues that Geoff is handling.
- Discussed meeting Geoff and Cindy had with HCS staff and Todd.
 - HCS van will be parked as normal in parking lot, but placed under pavilion in event of snow issues.
 - HCS will purchase table with folding leaves, for small conference room, to be used as needed. Table will be folded against wall during week, and set out at end of day on Friday. HCS will also purchase folding chairs for church use. They will be set up at end of day on Friday.
 - Reviewed HCS cleaning schedule.
 - Will meet quarterly with HCS to ensure good working relationship.

February Work Day, 2/26/22, 9:00am:

- Reviewed work projects for event.
- Discussed buffing dining room floor as a work project, would need to work around food and painting projects, or could be done after meal (or at a later date). Paul will purchase buffing pads. Geoff requested training on buffing machine.
- Each work project will be printed out on a card, for volunteers to choose from. All supplies will be provided for volunteers and on hand at event.
- Cindy to make announcements at church and send project list on Rush Tidings.
- Food and fun will begin at 12:30 / 1:00 (based on project completion): Pancakes, sausage, fruit cup, OJ, "King Cake." Cindy and George will prepare / serve food. Mardi Gras games and crafts will be provided.

Parsonage Sale:

- Cindy and realtor Lisa Shingleton toured parsonage after Todd and family moved out.
- Based on recommendations from Lisa, a list of work projects was compiled. According to Lisa, they are "basic maintenance items" that should be done. Entire interior should be painted, including kitchen cabinets and lower level floor.
- Cindy reviewed list with finance committee, to find funding for materials. Finance agreed that the \$1,000.00 currently listed for parsonage maintenance could be used, and agreed that \$1,000.00 could be moved from parsonage utilities as the utility fees will drop now that parsonage is empty. Spectrum account has already been canceled, with a monthly savings of over \$200.00.

- Will need to use volunteers to complete projects, in order to stay in \$2,000.00 budget. Cindy will work to recruit volunteers, and set work days. Lisa Shingleton has volunteered to help with painting.
- Dick expressed concerns in finding enough people to volunteer, and suggested hiring the work done. However, budget will not cover that.

Capital Projects:

- Thanked Geoff for his work in creating the list.
- Cindy and Geoff presented the information received from Finance committee at 2/7 meeting:
 - Trustees directed to prioritize list, then divide them into 2 groups.
 - Finance will run capital stewardship campaign to raise money for highest priority group. Projects will be completed in order of priority, based on money raised.
- Dick presented proposal that money from the endowment fund should be used for some of the projects. He expressed concern re asking the congregation for money when the church has a large endowment. After much discussion, Cindy agreed to present concern to Finance / Leadership, requesting information about how the endowment fund and the principle is to be used. It appears that there is a backlog of maintenance issues with the church, that has led to some potential damage (i.e.: the church siding has not been stained in some time, which has led to rotting boards at ground level, and issues in eaves). In addition, there are a number of drainage issues, but as the source of the problems has not been identified, it doesn't seem prudent to do repairs without determining the cause. A motion was made (Dick Wallace) and seconded (Geoff Furman), to ask Finance for approval to use money from Endowment to hire an engineer to evaluate the church drainage issues. We also would like Finance to provide some "education" for the trustees on how the endowment fund principle and interest are to be used. Cindy was charged with making those requests.
- Dick also requested that Cindy determine if money was available from the church conference for the building issues, and if any grants were available.
- Cindy will also determine what the budget for building maintenance has been in past years, as current budget does not provide funding for any of the major issues we are currently addressing.
- The list of capital projects was reviewed, and after much discussion the following items were selected as the trustees' recommendations for "Group 1" for a capital campaign:
 - Purchase of electronic sign
 - Drainage issue (west side classrooms)
 - Flooring replacement (entryway / lobby)
 - Exterior – repair / stain
 - Reupholster chairs
 - Upgrade WiFi

- These projects were selected based on several criteria: items that must be done, and items that will make our church more inviting / exciting to those coming into the building. (Thank you, Michelle Prok, for your input and wording.).
- Cindy reported information from PromiseLand board meeting: PromiseLand will cover cost of replacement air conditioner units for the daycare. PromiseLand will also help cover funding of the cost of a road sign. PromiseLand is extending the area of the toddler playground, so Cindy will review with Kellianne where the playground will be located, to ensure playground and potential drainage work will not overlap.
- Capital projects list needs to be rewritten and costs updated.
- Cindy will present recommendations of trustees to Leadership at their March meeting.

Next Meeting: Tentatively scheduled for Saturday, 3/19, 9:00 – 10:30 am. Will contact absent board members to determine a day and time that works best for everyone's schedule.