

**Colonial Church in Prairie Village  
Council Minutes  
September 20, 2020**

Attending: Bill Sanderson, Ken Werne, Mary Penrose, Elizabeth Uppman, Jim Cook, Valerie Cable, Brook Carson, Stacey Algren, Kate Nicolai, Harry Morrison, Marylee Battaglia, Cindy Burgdorfer, Bob Burgdorfer, Martha Wofford, Heather Brazel, Aaron Roberts, Julie Luttman, Allan Weil, Russ Townsley.

Due to social distancing policies in force in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was held utilizing Zoom. Bill opened the meeting at 11:32.

**Minutes** -- The minutes were approved

**Treasurer's Report** -- The financial report for the month of August reflected total pledge receipts of \$24,405 and total receipts of \$24,690 both of which are less than the budget but are greater than the prior year. Pledge receipts for August included \$13,560 by electronic giving. Total disbursements for the month were \$29,053 resulting in a deficit for the month of \$4,363 compared to a budget deficit of \$1,091. Other than normal operating expenses, disbursements for August included \$205 for thermostats for the YMCA rooms and \$118 for additional Zoom equipment. Utilities were \$565 less than the budget and \$747 less than the prior year. Total board disbursements were about \$4,690 less than budget.

Due to a provision in the coronavirus legislation enacted earlier this year, Colonial can defer the payment of the employer's share of the social security taxes for each month from July through December 2020. These deferred taxes are payable 50% by December 2021 and 50% by December 2022. The July taxes which have been deferred were \$647 and should be about the same each month through the end of the year resulting in a savings of at least \$3,600.

The year-to-date report as of August 31 reflected total receipts of \$324,162 compared to \$317,650 for the budget and \$315,228 for 2019. Total disbursements for the eight months were \$254,808 resulting in a net operating surplus as of August 31, 2020 of \$69,354. The current surplus is \$32,000 greater than budget. Most board expenditures are less than or within budget. Designated Fund activity for August included donations of \$800 for meals for Artists Helping the Homeless bringing the total available as of August 31, 2020 to \$3,167. Additional donations of \$300 were received for Cross-Lines general. Disbursements included \$336 for an additional cost of the Heritage Room Kitchen remodel which was covered by a transfer from Property Management operating budget. The total of all Designated Funds as of August 31, 2020 was \$134,414 including \$72,665 from the Pemberton charitable gifts. Memorials added donations of \$1,700 and disbursed \$223 for a plaque for Anne Mann. Earnings of \$151 were added to the various endowment funds. There were no changes in investments during August other than the reinvestment of earnings of \$151. Financial reports are on file with the treasurer.

Harry asked why we want to defer taxes to the government. Allan explained it is an interest free loan that will partially offset about \$11,000 of rental income and plate giving Colonial is not receiving. Heather questioned the prudence of taking the deferral. Allan explained repayment would become a budget item in subsequent years. Discussion followed on the merits of deferring payment.

**Aaron's Report – The Annual** Kansas-Oklahoma Conference meeting is coming up October 5-11. Aaron and Janet Weiblen are two delegates (Colonial can have 4). It will be held via Zoom during September 20, 2020

evenings during the week. Valerie expressed interest. Jim moved, Mary seconded a motion authorizing Aaron to approve the other two documents. Aaron encouraged members to watch the various speakers which are available free of charge.

Harry Morrison, Jim Cook, Jerry Gilson and Linda Moses are on the Capital Improvement Committee. Nancy Thomsen was also recommended.

Interest in coming back together for in person worship has been expressed. The county is still a long way off the previously defined gating criteria. Johnson County infection rate is over 10% versus a 5% target. Aaron does not expect to be back before 2021, although he is working on how Colonial can have on-site services for the holidays. Elizabeth suggested we include information on the gating criteria in the Crier. Mary pointed out that small groups are meeting. In response to Harry, Aaron reported about 40 households participate in worship. He felt that number had held steady or dropped slightly. The two services have approximately the same number of participants on-line.

### **Old Business**

**Rev Holland/AV Project** – Bill reported a Congregational Meeting next Sunday at 9:15 am has been called to consider these two contracts. Jim Cook asked about the AV Project. Bill explained the new hardware and software will allow us to present an almost television quality on-line service with improved music capability. Rev Holland will be the project manager, work with Harry's committee and assist with non-member pastoral care. Bill explained neither contract would be paid from the budget.

**Pemberton Funds** -- Bob noted the committee felt the AV project was consistent with the purpose of the Pemberton gift. The committee is looking for suggestions for uses of this funding. The committee also feels a portion should go to outreach. Discussion was held on items on the capital improvement project list. Harry suggested any decision be deferred until his committee determines what is necessary.

### **New Business**

**Capital Improvement Committee** – Harry reported the first step is to create a wish list and determine costs to create a Church Renewal request. Aaron added that Rev Holland will assist with development.

### **Board Reports**

**Property Management:** A large oak north of the drive was removed because it was dropping large branches into the street. Several other trees were trimmed. Because the garden club is reducing its management of the front shade garden, the area will be converted to lawn with plantings in the spring. The Y is impacting both Edson's ability to do special projects and the supply budget. Discussion was held on a follow-up meeting with the Y to see how things are going. Among topics are a cleaning check sheet and contributing toward cost of supplies. Bill mentioned there's a good chance the program will not be needed next semester because, as of next week, Shawnee Mission goes back in-school session. This agreement will be a topic in October.

**Outreach** – Stacey reported the Cross-Lines Christmas Store is not going forward this year, but that. At Cross-Lines' request, \$4,000 in gift cards is being provided. Diane Kuhn has fair trade coffee available.

**Stewardship** – Kelly reported the campaign will follow the same track of prior years with the kickoff on October 25.

**Worship** – Marylee said they would soon meet to discuss support of the pastor and music.

**Parish Life** - Martha advised the Care Committee is delivering flowers to people who are shut in. They are not able to talk with them, but can leave the flowers.

**Education** – Brooke reviewed the activities of the youth and that the books have been distributed and been well received.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm

*Russ Townsley*, Clerk