

Regional Board Meeting via Zoom
March 23, 2020
7:00PM

Opening: BRH opened with scripture and prayer

Attendance: Bill Rose-Heim, Mary Lou Kegler, Gerry Jones, Peggy Chandler, James Vertrees, Laura Phillips, Delesslyn Kennebrew, Trish Winters, Jan Harris, Keith Asaeli, Lara Blackwood-Pickrel, John Steinmetz, Mark Willis, Rob Carr, Rodolfo Acosta, David Arnold, Linda Harris, Travis Smith McKee, Debbie Morche

OF SPECIAL NOTE

Moderator MaryLou Kegler - recommended we suspend normal report giving and meeting and deal with special circumstances of Covid-19 and its ramifications on our Region. - Rob Carr moved, Trish Winters 2nd - passed

MLK – we will meet in two weeks via zoom if possible to review/vote on 2020 budget

REGIONAL MINISTER AND PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BRH - some good things that are happening

- streaming worship services - amazing things going on online with our churches
- Delesslyn even set up after worship brunch, and happy hour for people to connect all online
- BRH - staff update, all are working from home, regional office housed at MCC
- see report for more things going on general level in response to crisis
- Tall Oaks - large client folding, they are dealing with economic fallout of current situation

TALL OAKS

John Steinmetz reports there is interest in purchase of land, 80 acres on edge of Tall oaks, 3 parties have contacted us

Parcel is on the far east side of TO and has been appraised for \$280,000

\$150000 offer from one party

Forest School interest, quoted \$3000/acre, they are good with that range

Options - accept offer, counter offer, get offer from forest school, or put on market, not do anything, or ?

UCCR has agreed this excess acreage would not interfere with operations

BRH notes forest school folding per Martha today
Gerry Jones asked- how is access? Want to make sure access is addressed
We would need our own real estate attorney, whom we have secured, to word any agreement to limit development and additional sales

Rob Carr – I am comfortable with John and our attorney pursuing a counter offer with party that already made offer. Gerry Jones so moved, Peggy Chandler 2nd - passed

UPDATE ON SALE OF SOUTH SUMMIT

Mark Willis gave update on South Summit sale and parsonage rent

We sold the church building and property for \$910,000, netting \$304,000 for the region. The Regional Board will need to decide what to do with those funds.

We are renting the South Summit parsonage to the former pastor until September 2021, per an agreement with South Summit prior to their closing. John Steinmetz is handling this interaction with the pastor.

REGIONAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE

DelessyIn - regional assembly is scheduled June, team has done a lot of work, but obviously recent events have impacted this planning, team has paused until board indicates how to proceed

Question before board - Should we do it digitally or move to fall

DelessyIn believes moving to fall would be better – Laura Phillips moved/LBP 2nd - move regional assembly to fall, date TBD - passed

SPECIAL REQUEST

Pastor Rodolfo Acosta - Hispanic churches needing help, pastors and congregants laid off during this pandemic, his plan would help 100 families with \$4000 donation for groceries

G

rant options or budgetary options discussed, Mark Willis asked if south summit monies could be used

Rob Carr - moved we give a \$4000 emergency gift to Obra Hispana, who are dealing with emergencies related to pandemic, to support/help 100 families for one week. Pastor Acosta hopes to open options for additional funds from Hispanic businesses and organizations with this gift - Peggy Chandler 2nd - passed

GOOD OF THE CHURCH

MLK asked for people to give one word for how you feel, went around and people shared – “grateful, torn, hopeful, faith, courage, numb...”- asked Laura Phillips and LBP to expound on their words

MLK - We will get through this, we serve the almighty God, in the midst of the storm there is a bright side somewhere, and we will find it

John Steinmetz closed us with a prayer

Next meeting April 6 at 7pm via Zoom to update and review 2020 budget