

Regional Board Meeting via Zoom
December 16, 2019
7:00PM

Opening: BRH read scripture for Advent on Mary and Gabriel and offered thoughts and devotion on what positive things are happening in GKC Disciples churches and prayer

Attendance: Bill Rose-Heim, Mary Lou Kegler, Gerry Jones, Travis Smith Mckee, Peggy Chandler, James Vertrees, Laura Phillips, Delesslyn Kennebrew, Matthew Silvers, James Crowe, David Roebuck, Trish Winters, Jan Harris, Keith Asaeli, Adria Patterson, Lara Blackwood-Pickrel, John Steinmetz, Jessica Lopez, Ed?

Minutes reviewed and accepted as written

Budget and Finance - James Vertrees

November Financials were presented

1. Extension of Budgets - 2020 Budget not ready yet - B&F meeting on Wednesday, but need more time to establish 2020 budget, BUT we need operating permission so need to extend 2019 Budget until March 23, 2020 Regional Board Meeting - Gerry Jones so moved, seconded - 2019 Budget extended until 2020 Budget can be reviewed and accepted
2. CD for \$127,368.66 at Church Extension maturing December 20, 2019 - need New Church to decide what to do with it (Under their purview) - New Church asked questions on funds in general for New Church, James recommended holding out as cash right now and can re-invest later if not needed to address short falls in cash due to overall budgetary shortfalls in Regional Budget – agreed, no motion
3. Total current asserts also lower than last year. Total investments is better than last year - favorable market has helped investments. Also getting monthly payments from Montessori that bought Cherokee CC due to two promissory notes on books for region. Total net liability has increased, which is a good thing.

Regional Office Operating - have operating short fall - at the rate of short fall, we cannot sustain this spending - we need more income

Tall Oaks began year in deficit - in less deficit at end of year, but still substantial deficit. Receivables are up, which should help some. TO has done better this year. Lara Blackwood-Pickrel added part of this improvement comes from transfer of staff position to coordinate camp from TO to Region.

New Church is doing fine, cash to investments is fluctuating due to movement of money from Regional CD to New Church, will adjust with above movement as well, overall New Church has plenty of cash

Total cash for Regional Office Operating \$81,170, includes some designated funds, so total amount not necessarily available

DMF \$91,238, this amount represents a lessor amount than last year
Regional Support from Congregations is down as well

Total Income Situation - projected total income down over \$3000 from last year

Total expense up due to addition of new staff position

Camp lines, CYF, Chi Rho - General Camp line shows surplus, but CYF/Chi Rho ate that up? Small surplus (\$4000) for camp, but that did not cover salary for camp coordinator staff position

BRH added that regional giving from individual congregations is down and trending down each year. Some regions also showing giving to DMF is down 25% from churches.

Regional Minister Report - see report

Transforming Minister report - Dr. Kennebrew

-Attended conference with church planters

-Presentation given at DMA on process for transformation, and presented grant process for grants in the region

-Talking with Broadway church about continuing affiliation process with our region

-Gerry Jones asked if there is a way to see progress for better understanding - can see mission statement, wondering how those parameters are being addressed/met – Dr. Kennebrew offered to meet with him to answer

NEW BUSINESS

1. Housing Allowances for Regional Staff - Exec Comm will meet this Wednesday to approve these amounts for 2020

2. UCCR Feasibility report commissioned for Tall Oaks to see options available for TO Campus. Also to explore if third party could assess TO profitability possibility. They felt TO can be profitable. UCCR CEO came out to meet with TO Board and Exec Comm - lively discussion. Offering to manage TO. This conversation is still occurring, partially due to \$80,000 upfront deposit required for this transition to cover initial

operation costs. We have heard several good references from other regions that work with UCCR.

3. John Steinmetz spoke on interested party whose property adjoins Tall Oaks, wanting to purchase 80 acres from TO for \$150,000 - this is unused piece of TO with no future development plans. Exec Comm wants to pursue appraisal (\$450 approximately) Gerry Jones asked where this piece is? To the north, unused, not accessed for any reason at this time and no future plans to access. Motion to authorize up to \$450 for appraisal by John Steinmetz, 2nd Gerry Jones - approved
4. REGIONAL ASSEMBLY - Dr. Kennebrew and Adria Patterson are co-chairing this event for June 2020
 - Renew to Connect, to Commit, and to Celebrate at Hillside CC in KC.
 - Friday night fellowship (Renewed Connections).
 - Saturday - Worship with THO/GMP, brief coffee hour, exhibit hall, workshops (Submit proposals), plenary time/praise and worship transition to business session, outside closing celebration (family event).
 - We need your help - if you want to be a part of planning or know someone who would want to help.
 - Asking for budget of \$3400.
5. New/Transforming Church Commission - working hard thinking about the future - initial call to Dr Kennebrew of 2 years, started in 2018. Completed performance review and self-review with Dr. Kennebrew. Proposing contract extension to complete original five-year-plan, with raise for cost-of-living as well as reflection of hard work she has done. Cognizant of overall regional financial struggles, even as New Church finances are excelling. March meeting plan on having offer for extension to propose.
6. New Board Member Orientation - what type of time commitment? Want Board members to be comfortable and confident with their role on Board. Could start with as little as three hours. Peggy felt face-to-face was important. MLK mentioned some regions roll Anti-racism/Pro-reconciliation training with orientation as well.
7. Churches in Transition in Region
 - Mary Lou Kegler asked we keep regional churches in prayers as they discern how they move forward as church.

Bill Rose-Heim added - New Song had voted to sell building, they rescinded that vote this past Sunday and will look at models of how to be church in a new way. BRBCC is selling building to Love United and transitioning to something new but don't know what that is yet. Other churches are in discussion of future.

Mark Willis added update on South Summit CC Building sale – we are working with Commercial Real Estate agent, have gotten two interests so far, no offers yet

NEXT REGULAR Board Meeting - Monday March 23, 2020 at 7PM at Merriam CC.

OTHER:

Rev Travis Smith-McKee has been called to church in Kansas near Wichita. Will be wrapping up ministry at Fairview at end of 2019.

Lara Blackwood-Pickrel closed us in prayer