

MINUTES
North United Methodist Church
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Wednesday, November 16 2016
5:30 p.m.

Members

Shannon Priddy, Vice Chair	John Drake, Treasurer
Mark Foglesong (AL)	Eric Galloway (MC/LL)
Jim McDonald (SPRC)	Eric Oehler (Trustees)
Richard Kluger (Finance)	Mark Grove (Secretary)
	Kathleen Custer, LL

Ex Officio

Darren Cushman Wood
Josh Jordan

Absent

Sarah Moore (AL)
Linda McClain (LL to AC)
Margaret Mayo (AL)
Todd Daniels-Howell, Chair

1. Darren opened the meeting by leading the group in prayer.
2. The minutes of October 26, 2016 meeting were approved unanimously.
(Custer/McDonald)
3. Finances Review (Josh)
 - After reviewing October financials at its most recent meeting, the Finance Committee discussed the 2017 budget.
 - The committee decided to give Stewardship Campaign more time to collect outstanding pledges—anticipate being ready to bring a proposed 2017 budget to Board in December
4. Stewardship update (Josh and Darren)
 - Pledges are trending about \$40,000 below this point last year, but not yet a cause for concern. A more detailed look suggests that some of the well-established pledges of \$10,000 have yet to arrive. These are reliable donors and should account for another \$90,000 in pledges for 2017.
 - The Stewardship Committee is meeting next week and will review a list of North members who pledged last year but not yet for 2017. The list will be divided among committee members who will contact the donors via phone or e-mail to encourage making their pledges. Darren will also review the list of any outstanding major donors next week.
 - Reminders to pledge will be sent through mid-December while announcements will continue from the pulpit. By mid-December the reminders will stop to leave things open for the Christmas offering.
 - Darren and Josh will meet with the Program Mission Endowment Committee (PME) to see what funds in those endowments might be available for use in balancing the

2017 budget. In the New Year, the funds will be reviewed for possible reorganization and consolidation of some of them.

- Darren anticipates finishing the Stewardship Campaign about where we did last year in terms of total pledges. Avoiding a decline is useful, but we would need an increase to cover the SPRC-recommended raises as well as address the size of the church tithe.
- As mentioned at the [October meeting](#), 120 members who were either mid-range donors or sporadic pledgers were invited to a coffee in October to talk about giving. The 24 who attended were encouraged to significantly increase or perhaps double their gifts, moving to the next threshold (such as \$3,000 donors encouraged to move to \$5,000-\$6,000 gifts). Josh will be tracking those who attended to see what impact the event might have had.
- One encouraging note is that the per-capita 2017 pledge is \$3,900, up from \$3,600 last year. This is well above the standard gift in the denomination.

5. Land Development small group update (Darren)

- Eight small groups are underway, including three on Sunday morning. Though originally asked to provide summaries after the final session, a number of them are providing feedback after each meeting.
- Board members expressed some concern about the number of participants—groups range from 5-25 attendees—and whether their participation and comments are representative of the larger membership.
 - We know that some who are not participating now in the small groups will believe that the discernment process was inadequate.
 - All we can do is provide and promote the opportunity and encourage participation.
- Board members who have attended meetings reported different perspectives and questions among the groups. No one reported any alarmist thinking or reports of *no-no-never-never*.
 - The dynamic is different from the Reconciling Ministries Network discernment process of 2011. Those discussions often tapped strong individual feelings where the biggest concerns here appear to center on parking.
 - Board members were encouraged to identify any key individuals who may need a one-on-one conversation with Darren or Pablo Svirsky (Chair of the Land Use Task Force) or others on the task force so that they feel their concerns and suggestions have been fully heard.
- Darren and Pablo discussed the status of the co-developer agreement with North's attorney, Mark Wright. Flaherty and Collins may be stuck on the issue of North being a co-owner and potential impact on their eventual sale in 15 years. We had hoped to have a draft of the agreement available for the small groups and may need to reconvene the groups in January (or February) to review the agreement.
- There will be additional opportunities for participation. GroupSync is looking at hosting some breakout sessions, while some Board *raconteurs* noted interest from

their participants in a joint session at which the concerns or questions that were identified in the small groups could be addressed. Some attendees also believed bringing the groups together would spark other comments and suggestions.

6. Proposed Change to [Bylaws](#)

- At the [October meeting](#), Board members discussed the need to ensure greater continuity of leadership for the Board and agreed to move to a model with a fixed term in which a member would serve first as Vice Chair and then as Chair. Such a model also allows someone who may new to the Board to get up-to-speed on Board issues and governance matters before becoming Chair.
- Lay Leadership proposed the following change to the Bylaws with added text [highlighted](#).

Section 2. Membership Qualifications and Terms.

(a) Subject to the foregoing, the Board of Directors shall consist of no less than eleven (11) and no more than fifteen (15) members, all of whom shall be professing 8 members of the Church. The number of Directors shall be set by the Board of Directors in its sole discretion. Terms of office shall be three-year terms, except for the initial Directors and for the Vice Chairperson/Chairperson. [The collective single term of office for the Vice Chairperson/Chairperson shall be four years with two years as Vice Chairperson followed by two years as Chairperson. The four-year term of the Vice Chairperson/Chairperson may immediately precede or follow a single three-year term as a director, allowing up to seven consecutive years of service on the board before being required to step down. Other directors may serve no more than two \(2\) consecutive three-year terms.](#)

- The change to the bylaw was adopted by unanimous vote.
- Lay Leadership also proposed updating terminology for these two positions throughout the Bylaws (a total of 30 locations)

[The Bylaws shall be amended to replace the term “Chairperson” with the term “Chair,” and the term “Vice Chairperson” with the term “Vice Chair” in all instances in which they appear.](#)

- The change to the bylaws was adopted by unanimous vote.
- With the bylaws amended, we will have a mini-charge conference vote immediately prior to the 21 December Board meeting to elect:
 - Shannon Priddy Chair 2017 & 2018
 - Ron Gifford Vice Chair 2017 & 2018; Chair 2019 & 2020
 - There are also a few other additions to the leadership slate coming from Lay Leadership who will be elected at the same meeting.

- Notifications of the change to the bylaws and announcement of the mini-charge conference will go out via the bulletin and e-newsletter in late November and early December. Under the bylaws, we are required to make the announcement at least ten days prior to the meeting in two forms.

7. Committee/Board/Senior Pastor Reports

- Trustees (Eric O.)
 - Some minor repairs have been made to the parking lot
 - Two heating units that serve the west entry and the community room need to be replaced.
 - After addressing the above, the Trustees plan to roll the balance of unspent funding for the year to 2017 to go toward purchase of a new boiler (approximately \$150,000).
- Staff Parish Relations Committee *SPRC* (Jim)
 - The November meeting was cancelled due to a conflict with Election Day.
 - The major current activity is the Senior Pastor Performance Review. Preliminary tabulation of responses will begin shortly with a goal of completing that task by early December.
 - *SPRC* has three new members: John Johnson, Peter Howe, and Linda McClain. They will be invited to the December *SPRC* meeting to help familiarize them with the workings of the group.
- Ministries Council (Eric G.)
 - The council had a good meeting and set the spring calendar of MC-sponsored activities.
- Lay Leadership (Kathleen)
 - Lay Leadership developed the changes to the bylaws adopted by the Board this evening. The group also worked on filling the remaining committee slots for 2017.
 - Nancy Fykes will send a letter to subcommittees such as HEM to keep them current and active for the New Year.
 - The leadership kickoff event for new chairs will be held 17 January at which all chairs will go over procedures and other tasks and deadlines related to their roles. The chairs will be introduced to the congregation at services on 22 January.
- Senior Pastor (Darren)
 - 17 new members; new members class in the spring
 - Advent is coming.
 - District-wide Charge Conference report

- The slate for North Leadership positions was adopted unanimously by North members present.
- The salary and housing recommendations for the pastors were adopted unanimously by North members present.

8. There was no Executive Session.

See [January 2015 minutes](#), page 6, item 7

Upcoming Meeting Dates

- December 21 (3rd Wednesday)
 - Includes a charge conference to consider revised leadership slate and terms of service

2017

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| • January 25 | • July 26 |
| • February 22 | • August 23 |
| • March 22 | • September 27 |
| • April 26 | • October 25 |
| • May 24 | • November 15 (3 rd Wednesday) |
| • June 28 | • December 20 (3 rd Wednesday) |