

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Wednesday, January 22, 2014

Members

Todd Daniels-Howell, Chair	Eric Galloway (COM /LL)
Mark Grove, Secretary	Margaret Mayo (AL)
James Hamstra (SPRC)	Angela Ockerman-Jones (AL)
Nick Tumminello (Finance)	Bill Groth (AL)
Linda McClain (LL to AC)	Kathleen Custer, LL

Ex Officio

Darren Cushman Wood
Jim Thieman, CBA

Absent

Ann Mackey, Vice Chair
Charles Young, Treasurer
Don Altemeyer (Trustees)

1. Pastor Darren opened the meeting by offering a prayer.
2. As it was the first meeting of the new board, members introduced themselves.
3. The minutes of the December 18, 2013 meeting were approved as distributed.
4. Orientation (Darren and Jim)
 - Noting that Service is an expectation for all members of North, Darren summarized expectations for Board members.
 - **Presence**—regular attendance at meetings is important.
 - A packet of introductory materials was distributed (and later e-mailed) to all Board members.
 - A growing number of resources used by the Board now appear on North’s website.
 - Meeting agenda and minutes may be found by the following navigation
 - Main North [website](#) -> News & Events -> Meeting Agenda & Minutes -> Board of Directors
 - Main North [website](#) -> About Us -> Lay Leadership -> Board of Directors--Meeting Minutes/Upcoming Meeting Dates & Agendas
 - Bylaws and other policy documents
 - Main North [website](#) -> About Us -> Lay Leadership -> Policy section at bottom of the page
 - We hold a [Charge Conference](#) each year which all professing members are encouraged to attend and vote on a number of church governance issues. This typically occurs in November.
 - **Gifts**—everyone serving in a leadership position at North is expected to pledge to the church’s annual campaign. The amount of the individual pledge is less important than being able to say to all North members that the church leadership is demonstrating its continued support through 100% participation in the campaign.

- Jim provided a brief overview of the budget and how to read the different statements (general fund, capital fund, discretionary fund, endowment fund) that members receive prior to each month’s meeting. Anyone looking for additional detail should contact Jim.
 - **Service**—our terms are calendar year-based and run for three years. Other details regarding composition of the Board, meetings, etc. appear in the [Bylaws](#).
 - Darren distributed a staff organization chart and a draft of the expanded Leadership Directory. The latter includes more committees and groups than appear in the version distributed at services in January and which [appears on the website](#). This more public version of the directory features the “major” boards, councils, and committees, but with a goal of limiting the list to one piece of paper for ease of distribution at services.
 - **Prayer**
 - Every ministry team, committee, and related group is included in the 9:30 morning prayers. Darren asked members to keep these bodies in their prayers using the meeting schedule that appears in the Sunday Bulletin’s *Happenings* to help organize one’s prayer (which groups are meeting on Monday, Tuesday, etc.).
 - Darren introduced a pamphlet entitled [A Spirituality of Fundraising](#) (by Henri J.M. Nouwen) that will be shared with the Board and the Stewardship Committee. He suggested the Board could discuss a portion of this at the February meeting and will share information on how Board members can obtain copies in advance of that meeting.
- Members discussed the benefit of providing a photograph of the Board or of individual members as a way to help the larger membership to connect with the Board.
 - On a related point, updating the printed photo directory would be a great help as it has been five years since the last directory was published.
 - Another way to approach this is to consider making photos available to North members online, perhaps using Shelby as a storage mechanism. A committee of volunteer photographers had met on this while Brenda was still at North.
 - Mark will bring a camera to the February meeting to take photos of individual board members for possible use on the website.

5. Financial Report and Attendance Report (Jim)

- Jim presented the December financial statements, noting that they are still draft due to year-end processing and audit; there are still some adjustments to be made.
- Income has been posted through December. At \$987,000, current year pledges finished \$112,979 less than budgeted, a shortfall of just over 10%. At \$182,585, non-pledge contributions were just \$7,313 below budget, or a shortfall of just under 4%. Including all income types, total income for the year of \$1,245,107 was \$96,353 below budget, (-7.2%).

- Total expenses for the year have come to \$1,320,115 so far, roughly \$108,845 (7.6%) below budget. Many of the expenses are under budget due to Brian's departure and careful monitoring of expenses by the staff.
 - Legal bills generally tied to environmental issues were significantly higher than budgeted. A member family has generously paid those bills.
- In balance, expenses outstripped income by \$75,000. At its December 2013 meeting consistent with the Endowment Policy, the Board authorized up to \$87,500 of major bequest income to be used as needed to cover any budget shortfall. The required amount, estimated now at \$75,000, will be posted after the audit is complete.
- Attendance totals for January will be adjusted to account for the cancellation of services on one Sunday due to poor weather.

6. Land Use Task Force update (Darren)

- As discussed at the December [Board Meeting](#) (see page 4), Ron did get the proposal submitted to [Indianapolis Department of Metropolitan Development](#). We have a meeting with [Midtown](#) next week.

7. Lenten Programs (Darren)

Darren summarized activities for Lent:

- The theme for Lent is *Paths to Prayer*. A study guide is in development.
- Small groups are being formed, with a goal of increasing participation by at least 50%
- *North at Night*—Thursday night programs through Lent with a light meal, worship, followed by some discussion on a topic related to prayer.
- Dovetailing with Mission and Outreach, prayer walks will be scheduled for late afternoon. One focus in the area south of 38th street to help people get to know the neighborhood better. Darren hopes to see if there may be a core group in the congregation to continue
- During Holy Week, house blessings in this and other neighborhoods will be made available to residents who submit prayer requests in response to door hangers announcing this offer.
- Mapleton Fall Creek CDC is planning a couple of Habitat builds south of 38th street; we might be joining in.
- There will be a Good Friday service with big choir piece.

8. Board Meeting Schedule (Todd)

- As at least one member has a standing conflict with the current schedule of meeting on the 4th Wednesday of the month, members discussed other options.
- Given the timing of other committees and councils that make reports to the Board, the group agreed that continuing to meet during the 4th week of the month made the best sense.
- Following the meeting, members were surveyed and it was determined that the 4th Wednesday remains the best day for most members

- On a related point, a standing item will be added to future agendas for reports from committees and councils. In developing the agenda, the Chair will send out a call to the chairs of these other bodies to see if they have items they wish to share/discuss with the Board and any materials which should be distributed along with the agenda.

9. Executive Session

Upcoming Meeting Dates

February 26

March 26

April 23

May 28

June 25

July 23

August 27

September 24

October 22

November 19 (not 26th)

December 17 (not 24th)

Future Topics

- *A Spirituality of Fundraising*
- Flower shop *Ann*
- Dashboard
- Board photographs/updated membership directory
- Innovation Fund
- Ministries Council Delegation of Authority process *Eric*
- Emergency preparedness plan
 - Operational Review *Darren*
 - Potential liability issues *Ann*
 - Review of Appendix on Disruptive Behavior *Linda on behalf of new task force on special needs*
 - Formalize committee and response team
- Possible additions for North website
 - Staff organizational chart
 - A new chart displaying relationships of committees, councils, etc. to supplement the expanded Leadership Roster
 - Long Range Planning Final Report
 - Under an *Inclusiveness* page
 - Resolution Supporting Full and Equal Status
 - Resolution Adopting Two Welcoming Statements
 - The Inclusiveness page might offer some brief introductory text and additional links and/or descriptions of our various groups addressing inclusiveness, including the Affirming Group, IHN, Prison Ministries, Disabilities Awareness, etc., pulling text from or linking to

- <http://www.northchurchindy.com/ministries/adults/adult-groups/> (that has information about our support from RMN and a link I've asked Laura to correct)
 - <http://www.northchurchindy.com/ministries/adults/sunday-school-adults/> for the description of the Affirming Group
 - <http://www.northchurchindy.com/outreach/local/>
- Other policy documents?