BOTHELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES
December 17, 2019, 7:00 PM


Eric called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the Lounge.

The November 11 minutes were approved

Cynthia read Acts 12: 6 as the devotion and asked if we were ready for the unexpected good news, something miraculous. She led the opening prayer.

Pastor Casey provided an update on the Downtown New Faith Community.

- To proceed, it needs confirmation of support from the governing board.
- Governing Board will have an opportunity for input if any modifications are suggested.
- The Church has a financial commitment in each of the next six years from $10k to 20K for a total of $87k. The 2020-21 commitment is $10K. This project will be funded under the Ministry activities in the budget.
- Next steps:
  - email to the District Superintendent, who was positive about the project in earlier meeting and asked for more detail which has been addressed.
  - He may take it to the Conference’s Innovation Vitality group
  - Next it will go to Board of Congregational Development
  - Final step will be a pastor appointment which would be done in the spring before June 2020.

Later in the meeting the motion to support the Downtown New Faith Community was approved (discern) with all 5’s. Pastor Joe lead in prayer.

Pastor Joe distributed his Pastor’s Report (Appendix 1)

Pastor Joe thanked the three retiring members-Patsy, Ji Young, Mary and presented them a BUMC insulated cup.

Facilities (Trustees)
Ron reported:
- each restroom has a new plunger (9).
  - Had to call a sewer service and have a camera go through for the line near the pre-school. It found tree roots and a big ball of rubber bands.
  - Will have to do it again for the line for the restrooms near the office

He is working with the women who serve in the kitchen to make some safety and health improvements. Thinks it will be about $5K which is in the Facilities budget.
• Cover the island in the center with stainless steel
• Fix cabinet doors – screws are going to hurt someone if not fixed
• Purchase a coffee system so they don’t have to carry water to make coffee
• Wiring needs

He would like a fund line for the kitchen, there are people who would like to donate to the kitchen upgrade. Memorials can only be used with permission of the person’s family. The women would like a remodel but that will be included in a capital improvement campaign if we decide to do one.

• Bothell Urban (BU) status
  o The BU Team is working with the lawyer, the letter has been sent to prospective bidders.
  o Ron and Kristin are meeting with the gardeners about where the gardens can be.
  o Pastor Kristin said the Bothell Urban Team was meeting to review bidders offers on January 5 and 9 and would have a recommendation for the GB at its January meeting.
  o GB members would like to review the offer before the January meeting. Eric and Pastor Kristin will work on it
  o Eric is attending the BU meetings. He distributed a handout for members “Preparing for the first Bothell Urban Vote”. (See attached)
  o If there are any questions GB members need answered before they can support the sale of the property vote at the January 28 GB meeting, send them to Eric by January 5

Eric reviewed the Planning for 2020 handout (Appendix 2), so that everyone would be up to date and ready for the January 28

Eric introduced the Consensus voting (handout-Appendix 3). The discussion included the Quaker “stand aside” model. No decision was made. Comments included:
• Current consensus process allows one voice to block
• Motion can be revised and brought back
• Stand aside model discounts the minority voice
• Consensus allows the minority voice
• Likes seeing the hands, shows the intensity of the votes versus yes or no voting
• Can we have a model that asks the minority voice what would have to change to have it move forward? What would convince you to support it?
• Can some things be voting and others be consensus?
• Is the an interest in a mixed decision making model
• Just change back to voting rather than doing some items being voted on and other decisions by consensus
• More respectful to have consensus, could have silent minority
• Not enough time to come to consensus in a 90-minute monthly meeting
• Originally it was thought that GB would only be dealing with three or four items at a meeting
• What does come before the Board?
Eric and Grayson will revise and bring back

Generosity (Finance):
Bill thanked Pastor Joe for his letter then reported that:
- This year’s Generosity Drive was a soft push. Pastor Dave told the Generosity team that a church usually does a hard drive one every five years
- 2019 GB approved a deficit budget; took $120k out of savings and funds from Pastor’s Discretionary Fund; Savings is the fund balances which needs to be paid back
- Expect to end the year at -$50,000
- Need to raise $25-30K
- Generosity Taskforce of Ji Young Kim, Shelly Ainsworth, Reverend Kristen Joyner, Sue Porter, Pastor Dave Orendorff and Pastor Joe Kim has been formed. Tasked with formalizing a process to ask members who have employers who have matching fund programs if their employees (our BUMC members) contribute to non-profit community action type programs. BUMC would set up a Fund to receive those contributions for non-religious purpose.
- Other options are being considered to raise additional funds

Motion approved (discerned): Christmas Eve offering in envelopes will be donated to Northshore School Foundation-Removing Barriers Fund; everything else will go to the general fund.

Pastor gave his 2020 Budget status report
- Re-open Young Adult Budget line
- Requests from staff for programs under $10K of last year’s budget
- Asked members to think and pray about:
  o Staffing
  o Review funds carefully between now and January
  o Ideas for generating income-think the programs
  o Connectionalism of the United Methodist Church-What does it mean for our church to give $115K in apportionments

Pastor Joe will be conducting a four-week session, one evening a week, on Spirituality of Fundraising as a ministry and asked for GB members to let him know if they want to participate. The group will be 12 people.

Eric called for a private session for the Personnel (SPR) report.

Bill lead in the closing prayer.

Adjourned at 8:40 pm

Respectfully submitted
Patsy Ethridge-Neal
Appendix 1 Pastor’s Report

• Personal Updates
  o Travel Dates
    ▪ 12/27-12/29: Christmas Institute (Lazy F Camp, Ellensburg)
    ▪ 1/1-1/4: Post WJ Summit Gathering (Denver)
    ▪ 1/16-1/21 Vacation
    ▪ 1/27-1/28 Joint Annual Conference Team (Alaska)
    ▪ 2/6-2/8 WJ Leadership (Phoenix)

• Quick look at the numbers
  o Attendance Figures
    ▪ July 2018: 375.5  July 2019: 360.7
    ▪ September 2018: 369  September 2019: 359
    ▪ November 2018: 368  November 2019: 361
    ▪ YTD 2018: 371  YTD: 364
    ▪ Advent 2018: 415  Advent 2019: 424

  o Youth Numbers
    ▪ 2018 May to October Average 13.31  2019 May to October Average 12.43
    ▪ 2018 May to Present Average 12.5  2019 May to Present Average 11.95

  o Children’s Numbers
    ▪ Rock the Knock: 2018: 525  2019 700
    ▪ 2018 January to 12/16: 51.94  2019 January to Present: 52
    ▪ Intentional focus on stronger community connections in and around Bothell, like with local family businesses and non-profits
    ▪ Fun with Frosty: 183 (1/2 community, ½ Bothell UMC)

  o Membership
    ▪ We will end 2019 with net 0 membership

• Pledge Update
  o 2018 166 units  2019 (so far): 120 units
  o 2018: $506,175  2019 (so far): $390,029
  o Exciting Fact: 61 are either new pledgers (21) or increased pledge amounts (40)

• Communications Update
  o Opt-in GB Newsletter + Minutes—The Past Chair (where possible) will write a report after the meeting to be sent to those who want to receive it before the next meeting when the minutes will be approved. Both minutes and the Past Chair’s reports will be posted on the Governing Board webpage.

• Arkansas, Rocky
Appendix 2
Bothell United Methodist Church

Preparing for the first Bothell Urban vote

Dec. 17, 2019

At BUMC Governing Board’s next meeting, Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2020, it is expected that Bothell Urban will bring forward an offer to purchase the property west of the parking lot. This would be a vote to accept the recommendation of the Bothell Urban team based on their review of offers and the counsel of their lawyer Richard Beresford.

It will be important for each of us to come prepared to make this decision, as Bothell Urban is currently planning to tell prospective buyers that a decision will be made by Jan. 31, 2020. GB Chair Eric Trott is working with Bothell Urban to make sure the team presents its proposal in a way that sets Governing Board up for a thoughtful and expedient decision.

What should you do to get ready?

1. Think of questions related to the transaction that you want to have answered prior to the meeting.

2. Please share any questions with Eric Trott or Ron Kreizenbeck as soon as possible.

3. Please get your new Governing Board members up to speed.

4. We expect pre-read materials to be available. Please treat them confidentially, but please read them thoroughly BEFORE the Jan. 28 Governing Board meeting.

5. Pray.

Thank you for your leadership during this important time in the church.
Appendix 3
Bothell United Methodist Church

Consensus Voting

Dec. 17, 2019

Consensus -- n. -- Majority of opinion; general agreement or accord

The Bothell UMC Governing Board uses a consensus method for voting all in-person motions. This approach uses a five-finger scale:

- 5 fingers = full agreement with the proposal
- 4 fingers = almost full agreement
- 3 fingers = non-agreement, but permission for the group to move ahead if consensus has been reached.
- 2 fingers = almost full non-agreement
- 1 finger = full non-agreement

The model is based on the Quaker tradition, which is said to be effective because it puts in place a simple structure that moves a group toward unity. The Quaker model has been employed in a variety of secular and religious settings. The process is intended to allow a group to hear individual voices while also providing a mechanism for dealing with disagreement.

A motion that comes before the Governing Board is handled as follows:

1. A topic or proposal is raised by the GB chair, or a member.
2. Information is shared until the sense of the group seems clear to the facilitator.
3. Discussion involves active listening and sharing.
4. Ideally, differences are resolved by discussion.
5. When the facilitator identifies areas of agreement and names disagreements to push discussion deeper. When the GB chair believes consensus is reached on a particular part of the discussion, the facilitator can ask for a vote.
6. How voting is “tabulated”:
   - If all GB members show 5s, 4s or 3s, the motion passes
   - If all GB members show 1s, 2s, or 3s the motion fails and cannot come back for a revote without significant adjustments.
   - If one or more members show a 1 or 2, discussion resumes with the minority votes (be they 1s or 5s) speaking first. After the GB chair determines adequate discussion, the chair can request a second vote. If the second vote still yields 1s and 2s, two options remain:
     - The motion can fail, but can return for a re-vote at a subsequent meeting after undertaking changes.
     - A dissenter may be asked to “stand aside” to allow the group to proceed. “Standing aside” implies a certain form of silent consent.
7. Consensus voting does not apply for motions voted on via email.