

# Minutes of the Esteemed Session of the Downtown Presbyterian Church

September 16, 2018

Present: Justin Near, Carrie Gibson, Jim Dickson, Jeff Koontz, Chuck Cardona, Pastor Mike, Dave Coleman, Mike Korak,

Absent: Jack Henderson, Vicki Coffin, Debra Gentry

Guests: Scott Robinson, Dena Swoner

The meeting opened at 12:50.

Welcome to Scott Robinson! He is our new field education student!

Pastor Mike lead us in prayer for our friends, family and fellow citizens who are in need of love and care.

The agenda for the meeting was approved.

We will move on the approval of the prior minutes when Secretary Jack is back in office.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Over the summer, we've been fortunate with some monies incoming.

David Maddox acquired another grant in helping us feed the homeless.

Chuck will request a draw from the Corporation to help pay for building maintenance and to shore up finances from lower giving over the summer.

Jeff recommends a 40K draw.

Jim Dickson noted that the Corporation won't meet until late October and that we might need to request more to take in to account for future expenses

Mike Korak noted that the bell tower leak will be fixed in October.

Thus, Jeff Koontz revised his estimate for a 50K draw.

Mike Korak noted that there will be a few events that will bring more revenue to the church. (Historic Nashville, church merchandise, etc.)

Mike Korak made a motion to approve the draw. The motion passed unanimously.

The budget is in process! Meetings will ensue to get it done before 2019!

Dena stated that she needs the numbers for the pension plans by mid-October. Dena then made her departure.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Building and History**

Mike Korak turned in a report from the Building and History. No commentary was needed. So we didn't.

The Liturgists (podcast) is coming with an expected attendance of 400-500. November 30 to December 1. Woodland Presbyterian and Second Presbyterian are interested in being partners with hosting this event in our space. Mike and Mike (in the morning!) are co-coordinating.

## **Personnel**

Debra and Mike met to discuss some issues about the staff.

*Pastor Mike sought the counsel of the whole session on some particular matters.*

The Session recommends that the Personnel committee take this up as soon as possible and report back to the Session.

## **Hospitality**

Dave is working on the post card for our church that reps what we stand for.

Cauldron Cook-off is coming! Picnic coming up!

Waffle Shop coming up! Thanks, Denny Harris and Mary Turner.

Dave is investigating more events-oriented happenings for our church family.

## **Worship and Arts**

Carrie, Pastor Mike and Mike went to a meeting for Art Crawl concerning a corporate sponsor for the event. It will begin for the Art Crawl in October. Changes will come, but some will affect our relationship with the event. In a positive way! With fancy lighting! With new relationships that will make DPC's presence known even more. And we'll need to step up our level of involvement, but it'll be worth it.

We have a new composer-in-residence and her husband! Jodie and Emlyn O'Regan and they are from Australia! Welcome!

## **Pastor Mike's Thoughts on Choir Expenses**

Pastor Mike circulated a document with his thoughts concerning the budgetary and artistic aspects of the choir.

Discussion ensued. *It was determined that this conversation needs to be part of a fuller conversation around identity and long-term goals, including deeper engagement with the results of the New Beginnings program.*

Presbytery will be on October 18<sup>th</sup>. Who will go...?

Next Session meeting will be October 21<sup>st</sup>!

Meeting adjourned at 3:50.