

BFUMC Board meeting minutes: January 16, 2025

Board members present: Rev. Jim Buckman, Don Trawick, Mary Alice Beard, Lindsay Mattingly, Billy Cochran, Lenna Applebee, Leigh Ouimet, Sue Morris, Jim Failmezger

Church members present: Linda Knowles, Pat Stanley, Will Rogers

Spiritual Formation: Pastor Jim: listening to God's voice over other voices

Board business:

Elected board chair person, vice chairperson, secretary.

Don Trawick nominated for chairperson by Mary Alice Beard, second by Jim Failmezger, vote in favor unanimous, none opposed.

Sue Morris nominated for vice chairperson by Mary Alice Beard, second by Jim Failmezger, vote in favor unanimous, none opposed.

Lindsay Mattingly nominated for secretary by Mary Alice Beard, second by Leigh Ouimet, all in favor, none opposed.

Don handed out copies of BFUMC Church Board Guiding Principles and asked all members to review the principles.

Business:

Building updates: presented by Will Rogers, BFUMC facilities manager.

Will presented 5 different quotes for updating building electrical panels (Basement electrical panel, basement secondary panel, main floor electrical panel). The board reviewed all quotes and a decision was made to use MSN Construction Group for the electrical work. We already have permit and work will begin soon. Fire detection is in place and all will be inspected by city—3rd party engineer.

The waterproofing on Hill St. side of building has already started. Majority of work will be performed 1/23-1/25/25 and estimated to be completed by 1/29/25. Sump pump will pump water out through trench pipe to a pop-up that acts like sprinkler system.

Charles Black construction company is replacing flashing on CLC roof (warranty) to prevent leaking. Suggestion made to have periodic or quarterly maintenance on CLC roof to remove leaves and debris that would hold water. Sanctuary ceiling is also showing evidence of old leaks and is susceptible with heavy wind/rain. This is being watched and may be a possible insurance claim for future repair.

ERV/dehumidification for HVAC system is on order.

Pastor Jim stated we currently have received 93k for the emergency building repairs from the original request to church to raise 100k. Funds are still coming in.

Preschool is getting new playground equipment and fence will be repaired.

Don made a motion to adopt and insert wording for the building reserve fund, second by Jim F. 2k per month will be set aside for building expenses for the next 5 years consecutively. This reserve fund will cover major building expenses that come up without having to go into budget funds.

Pastor's report:

Current membership is 941, average attendance is 250 (212 in person, 38 online).

Finances: Income was up for 2024 (\$749k) and expenses down (\$764k) from previous year even though budget was not met (\$768k). Building fund income for 2024 was \$225k. Budget for 2025 set at \$803285.00. Finances are good with \$610k in checking, ~\$400k in building fund, still waiting on employee retention credit ~75k.

Security update:

January security meeting with security team is scheduled for 1/30/25.

Topics will include training for de-escalation and who is responsible for calling authorities during any crisis.

Board discussed security items such as locking doors, having ushers at side glass doors, ushers greeting outside to talk to anyone coming in during services, possible security cameras, policy on weapons being carried, and turning main church doors to open outward instead of inward (fire safety issue). Board and security team will continue discussions and address security issues in the next 1-2 months.

BFUMC applying for a security grant (150k) which will come with a vulnerability report and help us assess current security issues and make updates.

Task forces:

4 task forces (came out of 2024 strategic planning meeting) will begin meeting in 2025:

1. Assess and improve community outreach and missions
2. Generate a spiritual revival within our church
3. Improve the vibe of the worship service to broaden its appeal
4. Facility upgrades and enhancements

Task forces consist of staff, board members, and church members.

General discussion:

Some classrooms and youth room desiring to paint tasteful murals, also hoping to paint children's area in CLC in future.

First Pentecostal church is asking to enter lease agreement with BFUMC. We would need to have a charge conference to approve. We will watch financials, power bills, etc for one more month to see what cost difference there is from FPC using our facilities and continue discussion.

General discussion about worship service and music. Gary is working on it and has identified some guitar players.

Regular meeting ended.

Board went into executive session.

Closing prayer by Don Trawick.