

BFUMC Board meeting minutes: March 16, 2025

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

Church members present: Jonathan Applebee, Charlotte Trawick, Mike Stebnicki, Susan Rosenthal, Mike Rosenthal, Dave Webster, Sherry Seabrooke

Spiritual Formation: Lindsay: Rev 1:12-16-vision of Jesus Christ, Rev 2:1-5-Christ's warning to the church of Ephesus and instructions to repent, Rev 3:1-3-Christ's warning to the church of Sardis and instructions to repent; Eph 3:20-21—God can do immeasurably more than we ask or imagine, to Him be the Glory, Believe in our church's revival and work together for revival in our church.

Business:

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

Carpet in old fellowship hall being repaired this week.

Third quote on security system update coming in this week.

New front doors (two outside safety/push out doors) on order for 2nd week.

Narthex has no emergency lighting, concern during power outage, will get electrical quote.

Discussed items for paint repairs: old fellowship hall doors, columns in sanctuary, whole CLC or CLC by floor.

HVAC-still waiting on dehumidifier to come in. Keep old system for parts or haul away?

Discussion of gate(s) repairs, getting estimates this week. Will address gate improvements in next round of improvements.

Security team update:

Overview: 2 parts: 1)General emergencies (ex: fire/weather) 2)Security/Shepherding team

Susan Rosenthal went through the general emergency plans, floor plans, fire extinguishers, AED, 1st aid kits, tornado stickers in sanctuary/CLC, etc.

Dave Webster reviewed Shepherding team's actions for emergencies (medical, active threats), safety tips, warning signs, importance of ushers/greeters, and ongoing training. De-escalation training was conducted by Gwinnett County police and there is a need for special needs specific training (question by Lindsay Mattingly, Dave and Susan agreed).

Will congregation be trained and what will be communicated to congregation? (question by Charlotte Trawick, discussion by Sue).

General discussion of security plan origins and planning, current team, communication improvements between security team and board.

General discussion of weapons policy and state laws. Security team will come back to next meeting with final recommendations for board to consider.

Pastor update:

We are seeing new visitors.

Attendance and giving has been up and down.

Giving is down and expenses up.

Employee retention credit check is on the way.

New insurance policy is with Brotherhood.

Audit of accounts, individual/group (UMW, YAH, etc) accounts vs. putting under restricted accounts for more accountability/transparency, will discuss in detail at next board meeting.

Need 2 people counting Sunday offering.

Home School group will not be in CLC next year (for profit entity), they will stay to finish current year.

Task Force Updates—handouts given on all 4 task force updates.

General discussion:

SPR committee update—Lindsay suggested discussion for executive session.

Current Pentecostal Lease discussion—Sue had concerns about lease and rental amount.

Josh went back over market rates per square foot. Jim F. Made a motion to lower Pentecostal rental amount to \$1500, no second, motion died due to lack of second.

Finance committee update—Don presented notes from budget meeting with Deanna.

Discussion of reserve fund—Lenna made a motion to re-designate 80k CD to reserve fund/trustees repairs, Sue seconded motion, all in favor, none opposed.

Discussion of not paying church members for use of time and talents—Leigh made motion that church members cannot be paid for volunteering time and talents, seconded by Billy, all in favor, none opposed.

Discussion of current CLC loan, current balance, previous payments—Rev Jim will talk to Deanna for clarification and communicate to board.

Regular Board meeting ended.

Board went into executive session.