

Chapel Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2024, 1pm. Minutes taken by Sue Ceravolo

In Attendance:

Mark Newton, Chairman

Pat Collins

Jerry Wentworth

Sue Ceravolo

Randy Wiersma

Larry Smith

Becky Truitt

Charles Cates

Valerie Abner, Staff

Todd Stevens, Technology

Tommy Green, Interim Pastor

David Apple, Associate Pastor

Mark offered the opening prayer. Prayer requests and praises were lifted.

Devotion – Pat Collins shared from Randy Case’s Trail Notes concerning “Ordering our lives to His perfect will. To have a new life in Christ”

Looking at God's Will verses our own personal plans. Psalms 143:10, 1 John 2:17, Jeremiah 4:13-17.

Mark thanked David Apple, Pat Collins, and Jeanette Crawford for facilitating our Wednesday prayer time. It has become meaningful to him and many others.

Mark also reminded us of faith and humility. Emphasizing God's Will and citing Ephesians 4:2.

Action Items

- Approval of January Minutes – Not everyone was able access these online prior to the meeting. They will be resent, and approval will be voted on at that time.
- Treasurer's Report/Budget – Valerie

<u>January</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
Contributions to Budget:	\$108,399.81	\$80,892.52
Operational Expenses:	\$67,668.81	\$103,171.92

Attendance:

Jan. 2024 = 845/211 average

Jan. 2023 = 898/224 average

Reports and Updates

Technology Committee -Todd

- A one click donation box has been added to the "Give Now" page for easier access for viewers.

- A Leadership page has been set up, so everyone does not have to go to the By-Laws for that information. It is divided by *Pastor/Trustee/Visionary/Committee*. This is a good tool for the Board of Trustee committee liaisons.
- Bible Study sessions, scripture, and other resources are now posted online.
- A library of posters denoting special events at the Chapel is also online. This gives viewers a look into the history and creativity of Big Canoe Chapel.
- There is a link to various forms that are needed that can be accessed.
- A kind of QR code/app is being worked on as another source of information that is now being given out at the Kiosk or on Facebook. People will also be able to read the Bible and give to the Chapel on this.

Communications Committee – Judy

- The monthly websites are being looked at for page view and visitors to determine what is working and evaluate.
- QR codes are everything now.
- We are asked to take pictures of events as they can be stored and used as needed.
- Other comments/questions were made. 1) Find ways to engage more folks on the website. 2) Ask Tommy if we can do a 3–4-minute tutorial one Sunday morning. 3) Make our website more elderly friendly by putting the click to worship closer to the front.

Visionary Committee

Concern was expressed that it had been overheard from several people that the chairman of the Visionary Committee intended to report only to the congregation, leaving out the Board of Trustees. Sue commented that this is not true. While the minutes from the BOT Meeting of November 20, 2023, say, “They do not report to the Board of Trustees, but to the Chapel Congregation.” Ron has always maintained, especially after discussions early on with Mark, that they must report to both the Board of Trustees and the Congregation.

Other Questions and Considerations

- Mark asked who followed up on visitors. David explained that this is being worked on and that it is a moving target.
- Mo is scheduled to talk about the Stephens Ministers one Sunday morning at worship.
- The Call to Worship volunteers are set through March. Paul Schmidt will do this next Sunday.
- It was asked if there is money in the budget for training for our future Pastor. It was explained that there is money budgeted for educational expenses.
- Mark expressed gratitude to Paula and Fran and the Jubilee Committee for their great work implementing the Wednesday Night Dinners. He expressed that we need to work on getting additional money for them.

Art Room

Claudia is moving out of the Art Room and will be using it, like others, on a volunteer sign – up basis. This is much needed. Belinda Thompson, who works with our Children’s Sunday School, it was found out, is a wonderful artist. She managed to instruct 10 children ranging in age

from 5 – 12 years in the construction of cardboard racecars as a part of the kids' program that took place during the recent Relationship Retreat. This was a difficult task having to source supplies from everywhere but the Art Room. It will now be set up so that Sunday School, VBS, and other Chapel artists and groups will be able to access it easily.

Big Canoe Directory

There is interest in a directory. It was suggested that we wait until a new Senior Pastor is named so that they can be included.

Search Committee

Mark shared the answers to the questions that the Search Committee asked the Board at our January meeting on behalf of the Board of Trustees. These answers were largely By-Laws based. There was considerable objection that the entire Board of Trustees was not consulted prior to sharing with the Search Committee. A lengthy discussion took place with clear differences of opinion.

Larry Smith resigned from the Board of Trustees.

It was decided not to review the questions and answers any farther at this meeting as the Board members needed time to read through them.

Communion Sign – Up

The calendar for Communion sign-up was passed around.

Events at the Chapel

- The Relationship Conference with Milton Perry went very well.
- The Terraces Season is coming up!

Comments

- It was agreed that a meeting be set up on March 11th for the purpose of discussing the responses to the Search Committee questions.
- Becky suggested that we begin to meet in small groups at the Chapel to study (something like Discipleship Groups). She agreed to work on this.
- Ruth made a motion to ask Ted Sprague to join the Board of Trustees. He is the first alternate. All present are in favor.

Tommy closed in prayer.

The meeting was adjourned.