

MINUTES OF THE CHURCH CONFERENCE

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

November 15, 2023

Call to Order

Moderator Dennis Ellis called the conference to order at 6:20 p.m.

Business

Minutes of the October church conference were approved by a unanimous vote.

Changes to the church roll. Gwen Cavin died on November the 8th, and Mike Dodd died today. Two of our youth would like to join the church through request for baptism. Charlotte Phillips made a profession of faith on October 15 and Claire Carothers made a profession of faith on October 22. With these changes, the church membership is now 1309.

Standing Committee Reports

Properties Committee:

Wayne Hager presented a proposal for a security system comprised of 14 cameras. The proposal remains under review by the city as to whether these can be outside in front of the sanctuary, and is a follow through of the security assessment provided by Brantley Blanchard's brother prior to the pandemic. The proposal includes licensing for 24 hour coverage and 30 days of storage for all cameras. Wayne noted the continual struggles with RPD coverage on Sundays, Mondays and Wednesdays

The cameras will provide point of entry on the first floor, with the sanctuary having additional coverage. The system is expandable for additional cost. The current proposal is \$30,054.68 and includes the electrical work performed by Sir Raleigh Electric. Finance Committee agreed to adding 10% to the cost, similar to what was done for the sound system, in the event something unexpectedly arises. Therefore, what Sam will report on during his Finance Committee update will be approval of an additional 10% to \$30,054.68.

Wayne also reported on a request from Properties that Sam will provide additional details on during his report. ITC and weekday preschool requested two rooms they share be completely carpeted. The request has been approved by Properties and Finance Committees.

Finance Committee:

Sam discussed the need to finish the year strong financially. The good news is that revenue for the month of October totaled \$150,295.43, which is the second highest month in 2023. Expenses included the third quarter missions payment of \$23,064, with revenue exceeding expenses for the month of October by slightly more than \$12,000. The not so good news is looking at the year to date, expenses exceed revenues by nearly \$61,000 through the end of October. As previously reported, this is not the result of exceeding the budget in terms of expenses, Rather, the cause is due to a shortfall in revenue. Sam also reported that Wayne will be sending out a giving report for every family unit the first week of December and encouraged everyone to check if they have met their commitments toward the budget so we can work together to finish the year strong.

Sam returned to the report from Wayne on the security camera proposal. Sam confirmed that Finance decided to include a 10% contingency, which added another \$3,000, to the total cost of the proposal to ensure sufficient funding is available to cover minor changes. In addition to Finance approval of the project, Sam noted that the diaconate also endorsed the project during their meeting on Sunday. At this point, Sam requested approval of the proposal for at a cost of \$30,054.68 plus a 10% contingency, with the committee recommending funding of the project from the Capital Repair and Replacement Fund.

The motion to approve the project was unanimously approved by the conference.

Sam also reported the committee had approved the expenditure for the carpet in the two preschool rooms that Wayne noted earlier during the report from Properties. Funding for this will come from the Capital Repair and Replacement Fund, and since the expenditure is less than \$10,000, approval by conference is not required but needed to be reported by Properties.

Nominating Committee:

Lynn Loomis presented nominations for the following areas starting in 2024:

Board of Trustees - Margaret Clary, Matt Bullard and Ryan Willis

Worship - Libby Barnes, Holly Cook and Barry Jones.

Hospitality - Anita Jackson, Lauren Bradley and Nancye Gaj.

Denominal Relations - Teresa Teague and Susan Kimball.

Social - Lynn Loomis, Sheila Jordan and Jay Foster representing the youth.

Community Ministries - Bobby Phillips, Shirley Hobson and Cindy DeFoor.

Personnel - Dolores Bailey, Adam Harker.

Finance - Myra Brickell, Charles Petty and Noah Huffstetler.

Properties - Robert Runyans, Ron Maness, and Hayden James.

Lynn also noted that councils will be read in December. The motion to approve the nominees was unanimously approved by the conference.

Stewardship Committee:

David and Jane Kelley shared a stewardship lesson courtesy of the Andy Griffith show. He followed this by inviting everyone to apply the lesson by giving generously FBC missions and ministries in 2024 not only because it's a worthy cause and the right thing to do, but also because we are grateful. Grateful for someone in the church, or something the church has done, is doing, or will be doing. David reminded everyone that we can put feet to our gratitude by filling out and returning our pledge this week to the church office if we haven't already done so.

Announcements

Dennis thanked David for the stewardship skit, reminding everyone that you can never go wrong at FBC when you bring up Andy Griffith. There are endless life lessons in that series. Dennis then reported on the announcement in the *Rose Window Weekly* released earlier in the afternoon about the newly elected deacons.

The details were also listed in the agenda and are as follows. For the women: Crystal Bacon, Anne Cobb, Nancye Gaj, Sheila Jordan, Brenda Mullins, Elizabeth Riley, Ann Rollins and Kimberly Taylor. For the men: Tom Childrey, Stan Crocker, Tyson Graves, Jeff Hobart, Chuck Nichols, Caleb Petty, Lee Smith

and Ryan Willis. Dennis invited the conference to thank all of these newly elected deacons for the upcoming service to the church.

Bob Kimball shared his joy and excitement at seeing Elizabeth Riley and Caleb Petty among the newly elected deacons. So exciting to see two fine young people that have grown up here at FBC be elected to serve the church.

Dr. Chapman shared that he was glad he did not have to follow the Andy Griffith show, never want to do that. Dr. Chapman also shared that he did not think he would do that with his daughter.

Dr. Chapman offered a closing prayer, and the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Church Clerk

James E. Vogel, Jr.