

Fountain Street Church Governing Board Meeting Minutes

January 22, 2024

Board Members Present: Cele Badgerow, Steve DePolo, Matthew Huizing, Shellie Jeffries, Geoff Kempter, Tony Lanninga, Kristin Mayer, Katie Mitchell, Amy Preston, James Taylor, John Willette, Spalding Wall, Tim Creamer, Carol Kooistra, Cindy Peck

Board Members Absent: Jack Petiet

Staff Present: Rev. Jody Betten

Guests: Joan Jung, Laurie R., David Doyle, Liz Bullock, Carole, Bob Chapla, Tim Chester Jeremy-?, Buzz Wynbeek

1. Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 6:30pm. Amy asked that the record reflect that she started on time.

2. Call to Community: Spalding Wall, read "Moving Forward Looking Back", by Caitlyn Grey

3. Congregant Comments: none heard

3. FSC Thank You: Spalding thanked incoming and outgoing board members.

4. Nominating Committee: Shellie Jeffries made a motion for the new slate of officers: Spalding Wall- Chair, Steven DePolo- Vice Chair, James Taylor- Secretary, Tim Creamer-Treasurer, Kristen Mayer-Member at Large. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Governing Board Minutes: James moved to accept the November 27, 2023 minutes. Cele seconded, motion passed unanimously. James moved to accept the minutes from the special Governing Board meeting Dec. 10, 2023. Tim Creamer seconded Motion passed unanimously.

7. Finance:

Tim was not able to give a finance report at the time of the meeting due to his sabbatical in December, but updated finance documents will be sent for the February packet.

8. Annual Giving Campaign:

Tim was also not able to give the stewardship report due to the same situation. Updates to follow.

9. Bell Tower / Facilities updates:

Spalding Shared that our tower is not the official World War I memorial. It is not a registered memorial with the city. Also, while there are grants that are available for bell tower restoration, we have already started the process, so we are too late to qualify for these. Also, we are waiting for the contract. The companies involved are finalizing the details for the contract. More to follow.

10. Staff Report:

RCR was on vacation, he submitted a report in writing. we will have an update in person for the February meeting.

11. Old Business and Announcements:

Building Audit

The audit was completed in the last week or so, we are awaiting the response for the architects on what needs we have for the building... Report expected mid to late February.

Bell Tower Fundraising

Spalding reported that Win is moving forward and forming his team. It was a fun surprise to find a check for \$10,000 in the plate on Sunday.

Cele asked about impacts to the fundraising with Christophere leaving.

12. New Business:

Christopher leaving:

Spalding felt that we needed to discuss interim ministry and other issues which we will face soon. We do not need a search committee to hire an interim. The board will hire this position.

Geoff said that he thought we had an interim minister in Jody.

Spalding asked Rev. Jody to speak on this.

Rev. Jody replied with some resources and advice on hiring an official interim minister...

-Hire someone who has been specially trained for interim ministry

Cele spoke on her experience of having a specialized interim minister.

Rev. Jody replied that we should begin with a process of putting together a transition committee to "say goodbye well". This committee should represent as many church groups as possible.

Tim said that we should speak with the staff about the transition and urge these folk's to stay and go through this with us.

Kristin said that before voting on a committee we should speak with folks on who might be interested.

Religious Committee

Spalding said Christopher was originally going to work through summer, but with his leaving, he would work with the religious services committee (Carol) to get a summer speaker series together instead.

Board opening:

Jack Petiet has stepped back after the death of his wife. The board moved to not fill the opening since the overall plan is to let the board become smaller with a minimum of nine persons as per current bylaws.

Discussion about the summer series. The plan is to have the religious services committee plan a "normal" summer speakers' series.

Festival of the Arts:

Cele brought up that Steve Assarian is planning to coordinate an FSC booth at Festival of the Arts this summer. We need 100 people to volunteer for the booth in order for Festival to OK a new booth...

13. Congregant Comments: None

14. Adjourn: Cele moved to adjourn. Several seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:18pm.