

Presbyterian Church of Lake Travis
Session Meeting Minutes
September 25, 2018

Location: 14820 Hamilton Pool Road, Bee Cave, TX

Session Members in attendance: Rev David Evans, Moderator; Chrystie Thrasher; Dom Cavalucci; Nancy Vanzandt; Peggy Cook and Steve Gottlieb.

Rev Evans opened the meeting with prayer.

Approval of Minutes; Minutes of the August 28th session meeting, which had previously been approved by eVote, were ratified. In a like manner, the Executive Summary of the MIF, which too had been approved by eVote, was also Ratified in the same motion.

Motion: Peggy Cook, second: Nancy Vanzandt; Unanimously Approved

David reiterated a point we had previously discussed, if we are to move forward with a new vision that included families with children, we need to be prepared to change many of the ways we do things. This was not intended to be specific, rather just acknowledgement that doing things the old way and expecting change would not work. This was not to say we had to change just to recognize the need if significant change was wanted and desired.

David also explained the process for becoming a commissioner to GA. Stated briefly, if is through a nominating committee process through Mission Presbytery.

A somewhat lengthy discussion of discerning a vision for going forward ensued. The bottom line, all agreed, was to await the new pastor and follow that with more small group meetings where the new pastor could hear the congregation and the membership could hear the new pastor. This would then result in a collaborative vision and path forward.

David also pointed out that The Office of the General Assembly (OGA) and Mission Presbytery, have tools and options that might be of benefit to us as we move forward.

Committee Reports

Finance-Report attached. There was, however, a discussion of both budgeting and stewardship. David offered a different view of the approach that had been expressed by

Rev Poe (re the M&O budget), at the last session meeting. David favored the approach we had been using of determining the M&O budget at the beginning of the year and make it happen throughout the pledge year. As to stewardship, it was suggested that we ask whoever was to preach on stewardship Sunday to be sure to include a strong message re the need to meet their financial obligation to the church. It was further suggested that pledge cards should go out early enough that on stewardship Sunday, October 28th, all would be asked to come forward and place their pledge cards on the communion table during service.

Worship-Chrystie announced that she had filled the Pulpit through November, but that there was an issue with the fact that some who would conduct and preach were not ministers of the Word and Sacraments and therefore could not serve communion. David was going to research, if under extenuating circumstances, he could authorize that a lay leader of the church serve communion. A motion was made to permit session to have a lay person serve communion during next couple of months, if we are unable to locate a Minister of the Word and Sacrament and if David finds that that is acceptable under the B of O.

Motion: Steve Gottlieb, Second Nancy Vanzandt; Unanimously Approved

Chrystie also explained that Helen, wanted to conclude her term as music director. All agreed that Pricilla should be asked to fill that position. To make that formal;

Chrystie Thrasher so moved: Peggy Cook, seconded: Unanimously Approved

Hospitality-Report attached
Christian Education---Report attached
Property -Report attached

Mission & Outreach-Report attached. Here too there was some further discussion. Particularly about Vamos Ya and the incredible work that is being done by the Redeemer Presbyterian Church in San Antonio, which, along with The House of Neighborly Service, supports not only Vamos Ya, but a long list of vital services to the impoverished community of which they are a part. All were encouraged to visit to see for themselves what a determined group, following in the footsteps of Christ, can do. Note too, the Vamos Ya high schoolers will be visiting with us on October 7th. Rev Jack Barden will be with us that day and plans on incorporating some of them into our service.

There was also a discussion of our participation in the Interfaith Ambassadors of Lake Travis, (I AM LT). One of I AM LT's important programs is to visit the houses of worship of the members who comprise I AM LT. It was agreed that our participation in the Round Robin visits to the different houses of worship, should be Sunday January 27th, rather than on Saturday, the 26th. Thus the participating members of I AM LT will come

to our service that Sunday morning. After service we would explain the meaning of our symbols, customs and traditions with emphasis on the communion service.

On another subject, it was also agreed that changes to the Website should be made by our Administrator after discussion with the Chair of M&O. To that point, it was also agreed that we should change the initial photo on the site to something like a photo of our Tower, one of the most prominent design elements of our church.

Nancy and Chrystie mentioned that they had come up with a word set that matched our abbreviated name, PCLT. Specifically:

Presbyterian **PEACE CHRIST LOVE TOGETHER**
Church Lake
Travis

We all agreed we liked it and would use it, including on the Website.

Chrystie, as chair of the Nominating Committee, announce that the committee had selected Nancy Boenitz and Nancy Vanzandt as the those the committee will recommend to the congregation to be elected to session for the 2021 class year. In checking David's calendar, we found that he would be available to both moderate the congregational meeting and conduct service on October 28th.

**Christie Thrasher moved October 28th for the Congregational meeting: Steve Gottlieb
Seconded: Approved unanimously**

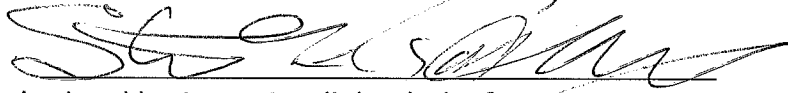
There then ensued a discussion of how best to deal with any member who may be disruptive to the peace and tranquility of the church. David referred us to page 121 of the Book of Order, and suggested that guidance be followed.

A question was raised with regard to the compensation that might be required to attract the new pastor. This is a session, rather than PNC, issue. To that end, a motion was made to inform the PNC, that were they to have, what they believed to be best pastor choice for our church and should there then be a question of the adequacy of compensation as now reflected in the MIF, the PNC should be advised that the session would consider a number different from that shown in the MIF.

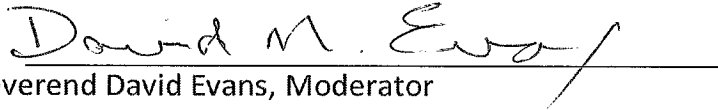
Motion: Steve Gottlieb, second: Nancy Vanzandt; Approved unanimously

The final item that was discussed had to do with retreats. Steve commented that one of the ideas that Rev Walters had suggested and had been implemented, was to have session retreats. It was a good idea then, and still seems to be. David encouraged the members to follow that idea, especially once the new pastor is on board.

Steve Moved to Adjourn after a prayer by-all.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Steve Gottlieb", written over a horizontal line.

Submitted by Steve Gottlieb, Clerk of Session

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David M. Evans", written over a horizontal line.

Reverend David Evans, Moderator

NOTE-----Previous/y approved by email were the dates of the two next session meeting: October 30th and November 2nd.