

Presbyterian Church of Lake Travis
Session Meeting Minutes
October 30, 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, Aida Faris and Steve Gottlieb. Additionally, Pam McGovney Mitchell also attended the meeting as a guest.

Rev Evans opened the meeting with prayer.

Approval of Minutes; Minutes of the September 28th session meeting.

Motion: Aida Faris, second: Nancy Vanzandt; Unanimously Approved

Moderator's Report

David gave us an update on happenings at Mo Ranch and their \$5M capital campaign. In particular he explained the significant growth in youth summer camp attendance and its impact on facilities.

Committee Reports

Finance—Report attached. As Nancy Boenitz, Treasurer, was unable to attend, Steve gave a very brief overview of finances as well as what was to go on as part of our stewardship campaign. (Report attached)

Worship—Chrystie announced that she had filled the Pulpit for most Sundays through December. Chrystie also said that the worship committee had met and that it had been a productive and constructive meeting, thanks in large part to the efforts of both Aida and Josie Whitley. She also indicated that the committee had, at least for now, tabled the efforts to find a new music director. Chrystie will be sending a letter of thanks and appreciation to all of the folks who have assisted us in filling the pulpit. She will do this between now and the time we have a new pastor. (See attached report for more information)

Hospitality—Nancy V reported that the pie feast had gone well and her committee is preparing for the I AM LT round robin at PCLT on January 27, 2019. (Report attached)

Christian Education---Peggy reported on the various classes currently scheduled for the balance of the year and several classes suggested for January. (Report attached.)

Property –Dom reported on the activities to replace one of the light fixtures in the narthex.

Mission & Outreach—Report attached. Steve confirmed that the I AM LT Round Robin is planned for us on Sunday January 27th. (See attached report)

Old Business

Steve reported that as far as he knew we have two items left in order to conclude our severance obligations to Rev Walters. The first is the last check we need to send to the Board of Pensions for her (check to be sent on Thursday, November 1st) and the second is her W2 for 2018. The W2 will be generated when we would normally do that at the end of the fiscal year.

New Business

Steve brought up the issue of compensation for the prospective designated pastor. Prior to the PNC ever having been convened, Phil Barnes had mentioned to Steve that the session might want to consider what it would do if the salary requirements were in excess of what was included in the MIF. Phil also had mentioned that he expected the candidates he would present to the PNC would likely be more experienced than the Rev Walters and thus would expect a higher effective salary. Dom (as a member of the PNC) confirmed that indeed the PNC did want to know if it had leeway in salary. Though Dom could not offer up any particular number, the PNC did want to know what leeway it had. Though no specifics were agreed to, the session did confirm that there was leeway and it could possibly be as high as \$80K, if that were found to be necessary and commensurate with the experience of the selected candidate.

Also discussed was the role that the session plays in the selection of the Designated Pastor. Though there is some information in the notes of the recent Presbytery meeting, there still remained some confusion. It was decided that Steve should contact Phil Barnes and get the specifics from him. Further it was agreed that this information would be included in these minutes.

From Phil Barnes; Essentially there are the official rules and then there are the practical rules. Officially, the PNC makes its recommendation to the congregation sharing both the name and qualifications of the selected person as well as the terms of call. The congregation then has an up or down vote. The practical route says that the PNC should get concurrence from the session as far as the terms of call and only the terms of call. This he believes is necessary as the session has the approval of all monetary issues with the church. This information has been passed on to the PNC and the PNC will get concurrence from the session re, the terms of call.

A motion was made to establish a date for the annual meeting of the congregation, specifically, February 3, 2019.

Motion Steve Gottlieb; Second, Nancy Vanzandt. Approved unanimously.

The question was then raised about how to deal with people who come to the door and need assistance, i.e. money. As we have no firm policy, beyond a tradition of providing a small fund (Pastor Discretionary Fund) for the pastor to use at her/his sole discretion:

We all agreed that a policy should exist. It was further agreed that the M&O committee should draft such a policy for the session's approval and that it ought to include a way in which our administrator can also be involved. This latter point because the administrator is the person most often at the church and is, in effect, the face of the church. M&O will take on that task to develop that draft policy.

The question of both proxies and nominations from the floor was raised by Steve, as both had been asked of him by member or members of the congregation. As to proxies, there really was no discussion as both our by-laws and more importantly, the Book of Order, explicitly preclude proxies. Nomination from the floor are permitted within the constraints of our by-laws. There was, however, a discussion as to whether these from the floor nominations, would simply precipitate a vote where the highest number of votes wins, or whether the person making the nomination had to specify who the floor nomination was to replace. Rev Evans was in favor of the method where the person making the floor nomination specified who was to be replaced. The session agreed that this issue should be dealt with, but it would be best to do that when we have our new pastor.

As it is time for the annual election of the Clerk of Session, the session was poled and Steve indicated that he would like to continue in that role. As no one else expressed an interest, a:

Motion to Elect Steve Gottlieb as Clerk, Nancy Vanzandt, Second, Dom Cavalucci, Approved Unanimously

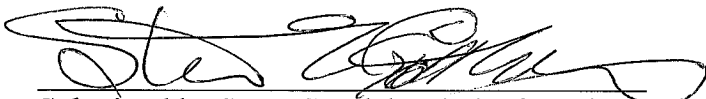
Aida explained that she was still working on getting a date for the PC (USA)'s Stated Clerk to come to PCLT and conduct services.

Steve and Chrystie were elected as Commissioners and Nancy as alternate for the next Presbytery meeting to be held at the Shepard of the Hill Church on March 1 & 2, 2019

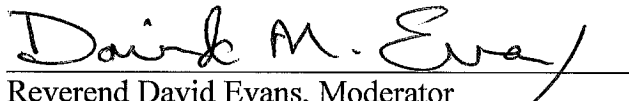
The date of the next two session meetings are Tuesday, November 27th at 10:00AM and then Sunday, December 23rd after church service. It was agreed that this latter meeting would be short.

Before closing and adjourning, David requested that we all say a prayer for him, as we are coming up on the first anniversary (November 9th) of the death of his beloved wife Linda.

Steve Moved to Adjourn --- Prayers were offered up by all, especially for David and for the Tree of Life Jewish Congregation in Pittsburg.



Submitted by Steve Gottlieb, Clerk of Session



Reverend David Evans, Moderator