

First Baptist Church Manchester
Bi-Monthly Business Meeting
April 11, 2021

Pastor Saylor opened in prayer.

OLD BUSINESS

FINANCIAL REPORT - Donna Murphy reported

- The audit was completed and went well in January 2020.
- Church will be suing a new Webster bank location on Main St. in Manchester, close to interstate 384.
- General fund has \$31,549.86.
- \$5,500 was spent on snow removal this season.
- By June the mortgage will have less than \$200,000.
- Average weekly giving is down and below the weekly requirement to meet the budget. But the church continues to do fine financially.
- There are no negative line items that need attention. Line 700b insurance is negative, but the bill has been paid for the year.
- Designated accounts are doing well.
- Young adults can take \$200 that was spent for the Easter Egg Hunt picnic from the Hospitality account.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Young Adults are planning a picnic for Sunday, **May 2, 2021 at 3:00.** Funds will come from the Hospitality account for this. Advertisements will be placed in Manchester PATCH online newspaper. Part of the parking area may be blocked off for chalk art. Names of visitors will be taken for COVID possible contact tracing.
2. Motion by Donna Murphy, second Rick May to use \$204.00 from Building Furnishings line item to pay for new office chairs. The remaining funds from the Building Furnishings line will go into Undetermined Expenses and the Building Furnishings line will be closed.
3. Motion by Jose Lopes, second Will Housley to use \$700 from the Youth line item to pay Amanda Gervasi as a summer intern. She will help with youth activities, outreach and children's activities.
4. Will Housley reported that the Teleconferencing Committee has 7 members. Attached proposals for larger and smaller room teleconferencing centers were presented and reviewed.
 - a. The larger room proposal would accommodate business meetings and larger Sunday School classes.
 - b. A portal for the necessary internet hardline exists already.
 - c. "All-in-one Solution" units, which include camera, speaker and screen would be mounted where the whiteboards are currently.
 - d. Additional microphones and speakers could be added later in desired.

Motion by will Housley, second Larry Hardin to spend up to \$5,500 to set up a teleconferencing station in rooms S 6&7.

- a. Plenty of electrical outlets are present.
- b. Whiteboard would need to be moved to the other side of the divider.
- c. Uses of the system would include business meetings, Sunday school classes for home bound members, women's Bible Study, and special speakers that could preach from their home church, saving on travel expenses.
- d. Software updates would be free.
- e. There would be a minimal cost to maintain antivirus protection for the computer.
- f. A cost would be involved for increasing the internet connectivity.
- g. Church constitution states that business meetings are to be held in person.
- h. Constitution could be changed to allow for virtual participation in business meetings.
- i. Pastor Saylor suggested that more information be gathered for presentation at the June business meeting.
- j. Matt Kline, and IT professional, suggested that the technology committee be involved in deciding what steps need to be completed.
- k. Funds for the project would come from undetermined expenses.

Motion by Jerry Adkins, second David Bonham to table the motion. Motion carried.

5. List of Roles and Responsibilities of the Technology Committee was reviewed. Kathy Graff who maintains the church website will be training two people to maintain the site in her absence.

Motion by Will Housley, second Paul Powers to establish a technology committee for the church. Committees are not all listed in the constitution. Motion passed.

6. Nominating Committee, Rick Murphy reported. The following people have agreed to serve on the nomination committee Laurel Feragne, Chris Harvill, Alma Lopes, Rick Murphy.

Motion by Rick Murphy, second Gil Stebbins to add the afore mentioned members to the nominating committee. Motion passed.

7. COVID concerns/changes were discussed.
 - a. Fully vaccinated people have a very small chance to get or pass along the COVID virus. According to the Biden administration last week the CDC reported that fully vaccinated people can spend time together indoors and unmasked. CT has not adopted these.
 - b. CDC has relaxed social distance in school to 3 ft. in classrooms; when CT adopts this standard, church may be able to accommodate more children.
 - c. Sunday School teachers that responded to Pastor's survey indicated that they would continue teaching; most will be fully vaccinated by May 2, 2021.
 - d. West section of 80 seats in the sanctuary could be designated for fully vaccinated members, with no spacing between groups. The East section of seats has 46 seats.
 - e. Zoom will be continuing with some Sunday school classes.
 - f. Church Council can meet to discuss COVID procedure changes with health care professional members.

Motion to adjourn Will Housley, second Kathy Graff. Motion passed.
Gerry Mamaclay closed in prayer.