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MINUTES OF GRACE UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH GOVERNING COUNCIL

Meeting Date: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at Grace Methodist Church in Room 136-137

MEMBERS: April Shaffer, Judy Macek, Ted Van Blarcum, Carolyn Scheible, Tara Perry, Geno Sharp, Chris Williams, Nick Cecava, Pastor Mark Porterfield, Chad Burkhart, Dennis DeReese and Susan Cornett

Absent: Nick Black

Also Present: Pastor Rebekah Rochte (Staff)

Agenda Item 1: Opening Prayer- Pastor Mark opened with prayer at 6:04 p.m. He used the picture of kids facing outward with joy on their faces to remind us that the Father, Son & Holy Spirit lead us as the Church, the Governing Council and the Pastor and challenge us to do our very best.

Agenda Item 2: Welcome New Members – Nick Cecava welcomed our new members: Chris Williams (SPR 2022), Ted Van Blarcum (Trustees 2022) & Susan Cornett (Finance 2022)

Agenda Item 3: Consent Agenda Items:

- Financials for EOY 2019 (Summary report was sent out in e-mail to council)
- Report from Mark with various items (was sent out in e-mail to council)
- Alfred B. Rhodes Endowment (was sent out in e-mail to council)
- Change in deductible for 2020 (relative to windstorm) - Chad Burkhart will take lead on recommending appraisal values on church and parsonage. Discussion was had. Pastor Mark requested that any questions be deferred to Trustees at Trustees meeting on Sunday, February 9, 2020
- Minutes from our last two meetings. (was sent out in e-mail to council). There was one correction to the minutes of November 5, 2019. Should read: "Meeting began at 6:00 p.m."
- One proposal to elect Chad (Burkhart) as our Trustee chair
- A copy of our Guiding Principles (was sent out in e-mail to council)

Nick Cecava stated that we are trying to streamline meetings and let Pastor Mark provide information and take the lead on the Consent Agenda Items. This will streamline meetings with advance information before meetings.

Geno Sharp moved that we approve Consent Agenda items. Carolyn Scheible seconded. Motion passed.

#### Agenda Item 4: Consideration/Discussion:

- Grace UMC Vision: Just right? Or needs crisping up?

Discussion was had on Church Unique which discusses that we need a crispness in our general principles. Pastor Mark stated that he agreed with our mission statement to make disciples for Jesus Christ, transform the world and connect with God, each other and the world. The questions are: What do we do or have we gotten there yet and how do we measure results? Pastor Mark showed a map of how to get to those steps we are missing. The challenge is that we digest this and see what applies to us and how we can crisp it up. We need time to clarify where we were and where we are now as a council. Geno Sharp talked about goal setting and a bridge of how to accomplish that goal. Without direction we only do things we enjoy rather than what God is discerning us to do. The Governing Council concept is fabulous and is challenging us to discern what God wants us to do. Discussion was had on the challenge of not losing momentum with changes in council every year. Pastor Mark handed out Goals for 2020: Proposal. We need to crisp up the role of the Governing Council along with bringing in other people to help the church grow. Both parts are needed; otherwise, we are just spinning our wheels. Being a management board is a limiting factor and there were questions about consciously avoiding the comfort of problem-solving management. Our focus should be on quality of programs which will help people come to faith in Christ.

- From Management to Governing

- Mission Possible

Discussion was also had on the book Mission Possible. Discussion of it won't do us much good if we get to this point and we just stop. Discussing finances in council meetings will take us off the beaten path. Pastor Mark said we need to find ways to make our time together as a council fruitful which will happen with doing much of the work before meetings. We have long and short term needs to formulate plans. Authority still lies with Governing Council to approve and guide. Council should be able to approve everything because of prior meetings. Pastor Mark discussed that in lieu of vision from the church, people choose the four "P's" (Place, Pastor, Program and People). However, we get more clarity from God, Others, and the World. We have an incredible opportunity to grow the GOW and touch many more families and individuals. Discussion was had on ways to start connecting with GOW through outreach and other opportunities.

The Governing Council is still the responsibility of Pastor Mark. Nick Cecava stated that management still has to happen but can be done before meetings via e-mail, texts, letters, and other communication. The Governing Council is here to support our pastor, and Council and our pastor are accountable to each other. There were questions about checks and balances of Pastor/Council.

At 7:11 p.m. Council stopped and recited the Breakthrough Prayer

- Signing the Covenant for 2020: Each Governing Council Member signed the Covenant for 2020.

Agenda Item 5: Proposals for consideration/adoption -

Pastor Mark moved that we adopt the Goals of 2020 and Governing Council Operating Guidelines. Geno Sharp seconded. Motion passed.

Operating Guidelines will be published to the congregation. At our next meeting we will discuss and focus on Goals for 2020, "Cross Pollination: Connect with Each Other" and "Pay it Forward: Connect with the World."

A question was asked about commitment cards and budget. Pastor Mark stated that the budget is not contingent on our pledges for the year. February 9<sup>th</sup> will be consecration pledge Sunday.

One of the big changes in the agenda is that instead of asking if anyone has anything else, let Nick Cecava know and we'll begin the process of addressing it at our next meeting.

Agenda Items 6 & 7: Pastor Mark adjourned with Council joining hands and singing the Congressional Benediction. Meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Next Schedule Meeting: Tuesday, May 5, at 6:00 P.M. (This was changed to Monday, May 4, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. via e-mail)

Respectfully submitted,



April Shaffer, Recording Secretary