

St. Matthews Baptist Church

Business Meeting Minutes

11/19/2023

Ken Weber, moderator, opened the meeting at 12:25 pm in the Grandview Room following lunch and the worship service. The membership report and minutes from the 6/4/2023 regular business meeting and the 8/6/2023 Specially Called business meeting were distributed and approved with no changes.

Lori Wendelin, Assistant Treasurer, filled in for Steve Pennington as Treasurer and gave the financial reports. She stated that we were doing a good job of meeting the budget with coming in at 98% for the year to date. Our total expenses were within \$1,000 of what was collected. She said that they were still waiting on receiving the preschool financial statements to add to the overall financial report. She predicted that there would be a large net loss by the end of 2024, with an estimated loss of \$80,000 with a total net loss of \$130,658. Giving (\$328,604) exceeded what was budgeted (\$317,529). Lori Wendelin made a motion that the report be received and accepted, and the motion passed.

Ed Hannah, chair of the finance team, gave that team's report. He stated that we could celebrate that the line of credit has been re-established, and is not being used at this time. It has a limit of 1 million dollars, and is to be used as a safety net for emergency repairs. The Sanctuary campaign has been ongoing and funds have come in for that. For the next fiscal year we are looking at a \$100,000-\$200,000 budget deficit and the team is not in favor of spending from the cash reserves. Options to counter that would be to hope and pray for increased giving, cutting expenses and raising revenue. Ed Hannah, made a motion that the report be received and accepted, and the motion passed.

Don Reiss, chair of the building and grounds committee, gave his report. Don expressed appreciation for Steve Kirkland who has been putting "band-aids" on our sanctuary sound system for a while enabling that to continue working. Don reported that the mission garden had delivered 2,500 pounds to St. MAM and Crescent Hill area ministries this season. It was the 3rd largest yield thanks to some very dedicated volunteers. He stated that it is time to rethink the garden; it may need to be cut back. He's heard from an organization called Louisville Grows about the possibility of having an orchard there. Don has also talked to a landscape designer about a three year plan to update the grounds as we have several plants that are dying. There was a workgroup that came yesterday to work in the courtyard and prayer garden.

Trent Ashcraft, chair of the personnel committee stated that his team was working with church staff to develop a new part time church administrator role. They look to begin the process after the beginning of the new year. Trent made the motion to accept the report, and the report was accepted.

Pastor Alan reported that the Kachin congregation presented the staff with a ceremonial basket as they had done in previous years. The Kachin congregation meets on site at SMBC. Pastor Alan then mentioned several other groups who use our building including support groups, collegial fellowship groups, River Cities band, schools using the gym for sports practices, and others. He said that a gift to the general fund of SMBC goes a long way to reach people of many countries. Pastor Alan attended a

CBF global finance committee meeting and there was a vote that approved raises for missionaries. He said that gifts to CBF also help in disaster relief responses. Pastor Alan shared how much he appreciated the staff and all their work. He also stated that at the next quarterly business meeting he hoped to have a final draft of his vision document. This would be the product of many discussions from Wednesday night sessions, meetings with the deacons, pastor relations committee, and administrative council.

Ken Weber, chair of the administrative council explained his council's role in ensuring that all of the other committees and teams were functioning effectively.

There was no old or new business to be reported. Jim Cahoe made a motion to adjourn. That motion passed, JoAnn Smith prayed, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:08pm.