

First United Methodist Church

Preschool Board Minutes

June 21, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 5:30p by chairman, Bill LaDage. Those attending were Abby Bayles, Brandi Gathe, Bill LaDage, Cindy Laramée, Katie Myers, Kristen Stombaugh, Jaime Warren, and Pastor Terry Westerfield. Unable to attend were Pam Baker, Lisa Burnam, and Kelly Clark. Pastor Terry opened the meeting with a prayer.

In unfinished business, the co-directors reported that the overall reaction to the letter the board sent about raising the fees got good feedback. Shortly after April's open house and new registration, Bill met with the co-directors and the group decided to use the "old savings" (\$3,900) to help cut down the deficit. The new registration money would be put into savings as "seed" money to start the new school year.

When working with Mark Burnam to construct the 2018-2019 budget, the co-directors will arrive at the total hours students were at school to give us a baseline for future years.

During the co-directors' report, they asked when they should start preparing the budget. The board directed them to begin now to work with Mark on developing the 2018-2019 budget. July 31 is the last day of the 2017-2018 fiscal year. Abby and Cindy gave a report about Chief of Police Jeff Ray's walk through and recommendations to improve safety (possibly changing out door locks or door handles; better camera monitoring system; dead bolt for upper hallway door; cover for classroom windows; determining a safe zone to go to in time of crisis; adding mace, wasp spray, baseball bats for protection; etc). Several of these recommendations have already been taken care of by J.D. Vieregge. It was suggested that the preschool add to their list of drills, a safety drill. Cindy and Abby attended an active shooter workshop in Effingham, and came away with new ideas.

Next the co-directors reported that the state lady wants some kind of partial shade added to the playground. Pastor Terry reported that the trustees are working on this. Before the Show is the company that produces local advertisements for the movie theater during the beginning previews. They have contacted us, as currently they have no preschool/daycare as clients. There is a \$375 set up fee with an additional \$179 per month fee charged for running it. You buy either a 15 second or 30 second spot. You would get 150 plays per month. While expensive, it is an intriguing idea. Pastor Terry suggested splitting it between the church for six months and the preschool for six months. Abby will inquire whether the company would allow this.

The board was presented with Kinzie Johnson's letter of resignation. Jamie moved with Brandi seconding that Kinzie's resignation be accepted. Motion was passed. We hate to see Kinzie go. The directors will begin advertising this position through church newsletter, Facebook, and indeed.com. This position has been paid at a \$10.00 per hour rate. Also, the directors will use church publications to advertise for substitute teachers (\$9.00 per hour), as we have many retired teachers in our congregation.

So far, our enrollment figures (combining full time with part time) are as follows:

Monday = 18

Tuesday = 15

Wednesday = 15

Thursday = 15

Friday = 17

These figures do not account for the before school (six) and after school (three) students. August 15

will be the first day of school. August 9 has tentatively been set as the Open House date.

The board went back to approve the minutes from our March 22, 2018, meeting. Brandi moved with Jamie seconding that the minutes be approved as presented. Motion was carried.

Under New Business, Bill reported that he had been working with Mark Burnam to come up with the projected deficit by the end of the current fiscal year (July 31, 2018). Mark's current projection is the deficit will be \$6,600 which is drastically lower than the projection in December/January.

The August Meeting was set for August 22, 2018, at 5:30p in the Library. A special meeting may be called to hire Kinzie's replacement before the August regular meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25p

Kristen Stombaugh, Secretary