

Fountain Street Church Foundation  
Board Meeting  
Minutes of Oct 16, 2023

Present: Nancy Ayres, TJ Norris, Bill Brunner, Bob Chapla, Charlie Gallmeyer, Todd Fettig, Chris VanAntwerp, Liz Block, Pat Eaman  
George Zuiderveen, Rev. Christopher Rowe, Amy Preston, Tim Creamer

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM by Co-chair Bob Chapla

Meeting Minutes approval

The minutes of the September meeting were approved with one correction; motion by Todd Fettig and second by Chris VanAntwerp.

Financial Reports

Financial reports show the transfer of proceeds from the Gilleo property to the Foundation, totaling approx. \$103,000. This amount is earmarked for tower brick repairs.

Funds will be transferred from checking to an investment account to make sure uninvested cash is kept below \$10,000.

Staff Report

Rev. Christopher reported that plans are underway to hold the annual West Michigan ecumenical Thanksgiving service at FSC.

Character School has shifted its focus from a curriculum approach to a more family centered emphasis. Response to this change has been positive.

Co-chair Report

Nancy Ayres reported that our corpus is down slightly due to market pressures but remains above \$3,900,000.

A question arose recently concerning an unusual donation plan for the foundation, involving royalties that are expected to be a continuing source of income. Setting up the legal work for this would be prohibitively expensive for the donor. It would be in the foundation's interest to find a way to enable this donation. Charlie to speak with Marilyn Lankfer to see if she has any suggestions.

It was suggested that there might be some interest among donors for a basic estate planning seminar. The program would be sponsored by the foundation but would not be specifically about supporting the church. Attorneys are generally interested in donating services for this kind of activity because it's good PR for the firm. Ideally this would take place in the spring, and might become an annual event if attendance warrants.

Board officers agreed to meet via zoom with Governing Board officers every two weeks.

#### Visibility Committee Report

Todd Fettig is working on a newsletter scheduled for December. He solicited suggestions for article topics. Charlie will talk with Marilyn Lankfer about a story to follow up on her presentation at the October foundation party.

Board members are invited to log on to the church website to see how well it meets their needs, especially concerning foundation information.

#### Tower Committee Report

The OAK proposal will need to be accepted soon so we can get work scheduled for the spring. The Governing Board will need to act and may require the use of foundation funds.

#### Board Membership Committee Report

Calls have been made to prospective Board members, and interest was expressed by Chip Wall, Gary Eberle, and Buzz Wynbeek.

#### Endowment Committee Report

The committee was finally able to access foundation documents after months of searching and safe-cracking. Efforts are underway to get the materials organized, and a revised donor form is planned for November.

The October reception was very successful and was attended by 80 people. It has been suggested that we could reach an even broader audience if child care were provided. Chris distributed a detailed list of the planning calendar that was used for the event.

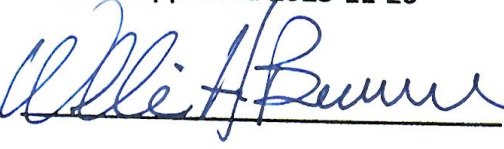
Kayle is working on an Excel spreadsheet to list donors' information for use in writing thank-you notes or recruiting new Board members.

#### Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be at 4 PM on November 20 in room 109. A Zoom link will be available. TJ is scheduled to record minutes.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:08 PM.

Minutes approved 2023-11-20

  
\_\_\_\_\_ William Brunner, Secretary