

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

GOVERNING BOARD

September 28, 2022

Attending:

Jim Merk	Bob McKnight	Jonathan Akyea	Kathy Breazeale
DiAnn Wiley	Roger Curless	Pastor John Bell	Wally Loague
Regrets: Mary Terrell			

The meeting opened with the lighting of a Christ candle and worship led by DiAnn with a reading Celebrating God by Larry Swindell. The message from the reading was that we paint a picture of God by the way we go out into the community.

Cards were circulated for those at Wesley in need of prayer. Particular attention was given in prayer for Mary Terrell who is facing brain surgery shortly.

Remodeling Narthax - There was a lengthy discussion on remodeling the narthex and opening the walls giving increased and direct access to the Gathering Place. The project is likely to take several weeks and will include:

- moving electrical outlets
- new doors between the narthex and the Gathering Place which will necessitate wall and floor repair and painting. New sanctuary doors.
- Project could start at the beginning of 2023. Funds for the project will be raised.

After a period of questions and discussions the Governing Board in a vote of 7 yes and 1 no voted to proceed with presenting the plan to the congregation before beginning the project.

Elevator Installation – A general contractor and electrician will be needed to provide direction on what will be needed in terms of permits from the city and ComEd. This pre-work is planned to be done by the end of the year. Giving access to the upper floors will enable Wesley to offer them for use by outside groups.

Kitchen Renovation – Specific plans for the renovation work on the kitchen to make it available for other groups should be completed by the end of October.

Sanctuary Organ – Progress toward reassembling and tuning is being made. The target is to be able to have a concert to showcase the work done before Christmas. Total cost for repairs and tuning is \$109,000 with the bulk being covered by insurance. The first \$25,000 payment has been made.

Federal Grant – Pastor John reported that Wesley has received a \$77,000 federal grant related to losses due to COVID.

Boy Scouts Update

- The bankruptcy court has approved the plan put forth by the national BSA.
- In place of chartering there will be affiliate agreements with local councils. The local council of which the Wesley troop belongs, has rejected the affiliate agreement. Wesley's attorney has reviewed and affirmed the agreement which was from the General Church and which the Three Fires Council has not accepted. The counsel advises that the troop must accept the UMC/BSA affiliate plan or not be allowed

to make use of church building. A meeting with the scoutmaster will be set to review the agreement and future use of the Wesley building.

Other Items:

- The annual church conference will be held on October 19th at 7:00 PM. Staff-Parish will meet prior to that to complete compensation packages. Claudia Smith and Betty Aquize have agreed to by the Lay Members of Annual Conference for Wesley. (Note: Since the meeting it has been verified that with the new formula adopted by the Annual Conference, Wesley is now to have three members of the Annual Conference.)

- Laity Sunday may be observed sometime after the first of the year.

Jim closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted

Roger L. Curless, Secretary
Governing Board