

The Downtown Presbyterian Church
Session Meeting of October 25, 2020
Minutes

An online (Zoom) meeting of the Session of The Downtown Presbyterian Church (DPC) was held on Sunday, October 25, 2020.

In Attendance: Debra Gentry, Jim Hoobler, Jake Byl, David Maddox, Dave Coleman, Mary Turner, Erin Bell, Treasurer Rachel Hayes, Moderator Rev. Mike Wilson, and Clerk of Session Vickie Coffin; also attending were Matt and Kimberly McMullen

An opening prayer was offered by Mr. Byl at 3:06 PM.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda from Ms. Coffin, second Ms. Gentry; the motion carried

Receive Kim and Matt McMullin as Members

The couple moved to Nashville from St. Louis. They appreciated the inclusivity at DPC.

Motion from Ms. Coffin, second from Ms. Gentry to accept Matt and Kim McMullen into the membership of DPC; the motion carried.

The date of new member liturgy and reception during worship is to be determined.

Approval of Minutes from September 20 Regular Session Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes from Mr. Maddox, second from Mr. Coleman; the motion carried

Moderator's Report – see posted report

Stacy Rector will be the worship leader as Rev. Wilson attends the Awakening Soul conference November 8.

Treasurer's Report - see posted report

The Treasurer's report is little changed from previous months, but capital expenditures will soon be transacted.

The Treasurer puts on her epidemiologist hat: COVID numbers are trending very slowly in the wrong direction. Masking is important, and that's going pretty well in Nashville.

COVID-19 Planning

Opinion that the Church St. doors should remain closed for the near future. More volunteers will be needed in the narthex when the doors are opened.

Comcast has made some movements, so improved WiFi is more of a possibility allowing for the live streaming of worship services.

Committee Reports

Personnel – see posted report

Motion from the Personnel Committee to accept a recommendation to increase church staff compensation by up to 3% in 2021; the motion carried.

Building & History – met September 23 and October 21, *see posted report*

Action Item: The Clerk of Session will write a note of thanks for the good work of Facility Manager Michael Korak, who is stepping back for a while.

Education & Evangelism - *see posted report*

Suzi Lane leads a Sunday morning Zoom meeting with the church's children. She is keeping the families engaged.

The history tour video is moving along very nicely.

Finance - met September 23 and October 21, *see posted report*

Motion from the Finance Committee to draw from the DPC Corporation endowment \$20k per month for church operations and \$60k total for capital improvement expenses during the 4th quarter; the motion carried.

Hospitality –

Waffle Shop 2020: Tickets will be purchased online; the event will be “virtual” instead of in-person

Outreach – met September 22, *see posted report*

Saturday Breakfast Coordinators – met October 15, *see posted report*

The Clothing Closet will be ramped up and some non-member volunteers will be invited for Saturday mornings “with parameters.”

Worship & Art

The audio/video aspects of the Sunday worship service are labor intensive. The Bells are doing great, and the Colemans will step in as needed. Currently, 3 people do this Sunday morning job. There's prep work before Sunday morning, too. Should professionals be hired?

Action Item: The Bells will write up loose A/V procedures to let the Worship and Art Committee know what skills are needed.

Communications Committee – met October 6, *see posted report*

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is working to secure 1 elder to serve unexpired Kellar term.

Motion from Mr. Maddox to set up a congregational meeting (via Zoom) on November 22 for election of 3 or 4, if possible, elders for the classes of 2023 and 2022, second from Mr. Hoobler; the motion carried.

2021 Annual Report and DPC Directory

A new software would be nice, but Dena Swoner seems to want guidance. This will be taken up by the Communications Committee (CommComm).

Project Thrive

Met September 30 and October 12.

The Project Thrive team will be trained during the week of October 25 on how to facilitate the first of three conversations with the congregation. The first will be focused on the past.

Congregational Care and Life issues

Faye Dickson has friends who have health issues. Betsy Bahn's mother is receiving hospice care. Emily Zavaro is being well cared for and is upbeat.

Next Meeting

Session: Sunday, November 22 at 3:00 PM

The meeting was closed with prayer at 5:11 PM.

Rev. Mike Wilson
The Downtown Presbyterian Church
Session Meeting Moderator

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Vickie Coffin".

Vickie Coffin
Clerk of Session