

Hillside UMC Finance Committee

Meeting Minutes – November 16, 2020

NOTE: Some participants joining remotely via ZOOM because of social distancing requirements related to COVID-19.

Lay Members attending: Don Brownfield*, Greg Faber*, Benny High*, Tina Kirkland, Steve Skeen, Greg Walker

Staff Members Attending: Rev. Herzen Andone, Andy Triplitt*

* These participants attended in person at Hillside UMC, Room 2204 / 2205

The meeting opened with prayer.

The minutes for the October 2020 meeting were reviewed. Don motioned for approval of the minutes as distributed, Tina seconded, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Andy then reviewed the financial reports for October and YTD 2020. Results were shown in comparison to both the original budget, and also compared to the reduced COVID-19 budget expectations adopted at the March 2020 meeting. Congregational giving has remained strong through the closure of church facilities, but dipped in October to 77% of the original planned giving. Don pointed out that historically, October has been a poor month for giving in our church. YTD giving remains strong at 92% of the original budget, and 107% of the COVID adjusted budget. Expenses also continued to be lower through the reductions that were taken as part of the mitigation plan. Pledge fulfillment remain high. Our congregation remains committed and faithful to the mission and discipleship of Hillside. The report and monthly analysis is available on the Hillside UMC website:

<https://hillsideumc.org/churchcommittees#FinanceCommittee>

Andy also presented the preliminary budget plan for FY2021. The Committee agreed that this review would be on the structure and planning assumptions of the budget, with additional and final reviews to be made in December and January, respectively. The major points of review in the preliminary budget were:

- Operational Revenue (Congregational Revenue) was planned at 91% of the FY2020 original budget. Total of \$1.849M
- Reduced amounts for apportionments (\$37k reduction) and mortgage expenses (\$168k reduction) were confirmed and included.
- Staff insurance costs higher as approved in October meeting

- Planning for cash on hand – And presented potential uses for “excess” funds over the target \$120k in operating checking. It is important to note that all of these uses had been previously reviewed and discussed, and Andy’s review was solely on the funding for these projects:
 - \$24,500 moved to the Capital Improvement Fund, in reserve for future build out of the Foundry – children’s ministry area. These funds had previously been approved for this use, and then re-allocated for technical ministries to support online services.
 - \$50,000 to be allocated in reserve for future funding of Missions budget for 2022, as 2021 Missions budget had been previously pre-funded.
 - \$11,900 to be moved into the Facility Reserve Account to bring the balance of this account over \$100k
 - \$14,100 to be used for the Outdoor Christmas Eve event – specifically for stage, video screen, speakers, and labor. Steve reviewed the discussion from the prior week in the Pastor’s advisory team regarding this topic, and he also made his recommendation to the Committee for support of this project.

SPRC review – Greg Faber confirmed that the plan for the Director of Production Ministries position had changed slightly, and that David Watanabe would be filling that role as a 1099 employee. David had been filling this role on an interim basis already, and has the skills to also fill some gaps in our IT infrastructure support needs.

Trustees – Greg Walker provided an update that the Boy Scouts of America, who use the church facilities regularly, had sadly filed for bankruptcy. He did not see any immediate effects on the finances of the church to come from this.

The Committee’s next meeting was set for Monday, December 14th (*Later rescheduled to Dec. 15, 2020*).

The meeting closed in prayer.