

STATED SESSION MEETING

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH, NC
MAY 15, 2023 6:00 P.M.

The Session of Little Chapel on the Boardwalk Presbyterian Church, PCUSA, met for a stated meeting on May 15, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 201.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Rev. Dr. John Earl, Moderator; Mary Jo Kohunsky, Elder/Clerk; Elders: Sherri Alexander, Scottie Anderson, Dickson Bridger, Lisa Jordan, Sue Laakmann, Christine McKirachan, Terry Paterson, and Marti Shogi.

Excused Absence: Hank Metzger, Wilson Rogers

Determination of Quorum: The Clerk determined that a quorum was present.

Rev. Dr. John Earl, Moderator, opened the meeting with prayer and devotional at 6:00 p.m. Dr. Earl provided us with handouts to facilitate our discussion of *The Life Cycle of a Congregation*, but Martin Saarinen.

CLERK OF SESSION REPORT

Correspondence

Letter sent to Krispy Kreme, for doughnuts donated for Easter Sunday.

Letter sent to Lewis Nursery and Farm, for strawberries donated to April Meals on Wheels.

Information:

Church Calendar for June from Delores Dyer, Office Administrator

April Financial Information from Joan Denney, Bookkeeper

Officer of the Month: A revised list of duties is posted on the Officers' white board, and the duties and revised offering procedure are attached to this packet.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Agenda for this stated meeting.

Approval of Minutes of Stated Session Meeting of April 24, 2023

Membership:

New members: Dick and Diane Gongaware were received into membership at the Beach Service on May 7, 2023.

Removal from Rolls: Robert Avent, died May 9, 2023; Scott Willets died May 10, 2023.

Consent Agenda **approved.**

Commissioner's Report: Dickson Bridger, May 6 Presbytery meeting via Zoom. Dickson reported that the majority of this meeting was taken up in voting on a number of proposals to the most recent General Assembly. Many were related to language used to include persons from the LGBTQ community. Two of the more notable motions involved the rate of severance for departing ministers and the requirements for Family and Medical Leave for employees and pastors. Dickson spoke in opposition to the family leave requirement, citing the cost for small congregations, but it narrowly passed.

SESSIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Christian Education Committee: Scottie Anderson

Report attached. No recommendations.

Communications and Marketing Committee: Wilson Rogers

Report attached. No recommendation.

Finance Committee: Dickson Bridger

Report attached. Recommendation: The minutes of the May 10 Finance Committee meeting indicated that the committee wished to recommend an allocation from the Rosselot gift, to be used for a reserve study. After some discussion about the source of the funding, it was decided that this allocation should be proposed in the greater discussion on August 21 at the stated session meeting. At that time, it would be included in the detailed proposal package being considered by the session. Recommendation tabled.

Leadership and Growth Committee: Sue Laakmann

Report attached. No recommendations.

Mission Committee: Marti Shogi

Report attached. No recommendations.

Personnel and Planning Committee: Lisa Jordan

No report.

Property Committee: Hank Metzger

No report. No recommendations.

Stewardship Committee: Christine McKirachan

Report attached. No recommendations.

Worship Committee: Terry Paterson, Sherri Alexander

Report attached. No recommendations.

Clerk: Mary Jo Kohunsky

Recommendation: That the session establish a task force to coordinate implementation of projects funded by the Rosselot gift, particularly in the narthex and adjoining areas. Following discussion, the Clerk withdrew the recommendation for immediate action, but asks that it be reconsidered it at the August stated meeting. Recommendation tabled.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Using our gift: Each committee presented written recommendations for use of our gift from the Estate of Nancy Rosselot for capital improvements and to further the vision we have created for Little Chapel on the Boardwalk. What follows is a very brief listing of major ideas presented today. Rationales were given

in discussion. Note: Underlined items relate to staffing, and at least nine proposals include recommendations that additional personnel to be hired. As each item was presented for discussion, clarifying questions were asked by those present in order to understand the proposal more clearly.

Christian Education:

Hire an Associate Pastor to be in charge of ministering to all ages and families of LCOB
Update the Church playground.

Communications and Marketing: (presented via e-mail)

Hardware: Camera system for live-streaming outside of the sanctuary
Lighting and microphone for pulpit, choir area, bells area
Video monitors to replace bulletin boards in narthex
Tablets to allow digital sign-ups for events and committee work
Video boards in windows facing Lumina Avenue

Software: Video-editing software

Personnel: Hire an IT/AV consultant on a contract basis

Other: Creation of a new LCOB logo, with standardization throughout all media

Finance:

Conduct a Reserve Study

Membership and Growth:

Playground
Hire a Family Program Director
Hire an Assistant Pastor
Resume Wednesday Night on the Boardwalk - catered
Street Signage
Trips for all ages
Mothers' Morning Out/Pre-school program for members
Construct rack for storage, display, and access for name-tags

Mission:

Remodel Matthew House including second floor addition
Hire a church property manager

Personnel and Planning:

Hire a part-time Parish Associate to focus on youth and adult ministries or other area
Assess current organizational structure

Property: (Recommendations taken from April 24, 2023 Memo to Session)

Parking lot pavement and signage, with extension of lot near Matthew House
Install a new roof for Narthex
Hurricane shutters for Matthew House and manse

Stewardship:

Develop an Arts Center to be used by the congregation and the community
Hire a part-time coordinator for Arts Center
Hire a part-time coordinator for small-group ministry
Update Matthew House for use as a retreat center

Worship:

Upgrade areas where worship takes place
Improve signage
Upgrade the narthex
Renovate Matthew House
Hire a Christian Education Director
Upgrade technology equipment for the ARISE service as well as the Beach service
Upgrade the Fellowship Hall to create a more useable and friendly space for ARISE and for Fellowship activities
New exterior signs – one on each corner of the property as tall as the BOA will allow
Upgrade the Matthew House for Church Retreats and Mission Work Groups
Purchase a new organ
Upgrade all of the children's classrooms to be more accommodating and attractive.
Build a playground behind the Matthew House

Clerk:

Refresh the narthex seating, signage, technology, welcome center with gifts
Create a task force to coordinate space implementation of approved proposals

Moderator:

Build an Ocean Environment Playground
Establish a task force to research and develop this playground

MOTION by Sherri Alexander: That funds from the Rosselot gift should not be allocated until we have a written business plan with a full framework for expenditures, and any allocation of funds from the gift should be deferred until the plan is approved by the Session. Upon a second from Chris McKirachan, the motion **was approved**.

NEW BUSINESS

Parking Lot usage request: A request from a PCA (Presbyterian Church in America) church named Downtown Presbyterian Church known as “Downtown Pres,” to grant single-day parking for a beach area activity. No date or further details were provided. The Session recommended by common consent that this request be considered at a later meeting when details such as date, time, number and type of vehicles, and activity description are provided.

Officer of the Month: List of duties has been modified. Copies are attached, and the white board is updated. Revision will be posted on the leaders’ website pages.

MODERATOR’S REPORT

The discussion tonight generated a lot of positive comments and we are on the path to a better understanding of the direction Little Chapel can take toward supporting our vision through the use of the gift from Nancy Rosselot.

Each leader should now prepare, and submit to Delores by August 15, a more detailed description of each proposal, including a ball-park approximation of the cost of implementing the recommendation. It would be useful to point out how the adoption of the proposal supports the vision we have adopted for LCOB, so that Elders can weigh the connections when they vote. *This report is separate from the regular required monthly report about your committee meetings and activities, so you will need to submit TWO documents to Delores for the August meeting.*

The Personnel and Planning Committee will subsequently be asked to consider hiring suggestions, and will report on how additional staffing would impact our organization.

REMINDERS:

The next stated meeting of the Session will be on Monday, June 19, at 6:00 p.m. in Room 201.

Officer of the month for the Beach Service is Dickson Bridger; for the 10:30 service:

June 4: Sherry Lovette

June 11: Mary Jo Kohunsky

June 18: Scottie Anderson

June 25: Judy Gibson

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CLOSING PRAYER

Pastor Earl concluded the meeting with prayer and the group sang our final prayer.

Mary Jo Kohunsky, Clerk

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