

Irvine United Congregational Church
Spring Congregational Meeting Minutes

June 1, 2014

Moderator Anne Rosse called the meeting to order at 12:43pm.

The agenda, meeting materials, and voting cards were distributed as participants arrived for the meeting.

Michael Spindle reported that 174 of our corporate and non-corporate members were in attendance, thus quorum was established. Anne thanked Michael for his diligent preparation for today's meeting.

Anne introduced Rachel Dill as parliamentarian for the meeting.

Pastoral Intern Matthew Redman led the congregation in an opening prayer.

Lorraine Fox moved approval of the agenda; Felicity Figueroa seconded. The agenda was approved unanimously by the congregation. The minutes of the January 19, 2014 Winter Congregational Meeting were accepted as presented. Don Bjorklund moved receipt of the reports from Ministries and Committees; Dale Lang seconded. The congregation unanimously approved receipt of the reports.

Senior Pastor Paul Tellström provided a brief report on the state of the church. He thanked Anne for her leadership as Moderator over the past year. Pastor Paul said much of our recent focus has been on growing our church membership and services. He also discussed briefly the recent church member survey, which particularly revealed the desire to have the choir at both first and second services.

Anne provided a history of the steps to date in developing the master plan being presented today, including the resolution passed by the congregation on November 24, 2013. She introduced and recognized members of the Building Committee.

Jim Raver reviewed the master plan presented for a vote today:

- Phase 1 is a proposed addition to the sanctuary building that will provide additional space for meetings and pastoral offices, along with outdoor space.
- Phase 2 is a proposed new early childhood center building, with three classrooms and a play yard.

- Phase 3 is proposed fellowship space, featuring three new multipurpose rooms, a kitchen/serving area, youth program space, and a completed church courtyard.
- Jim completed his presentation with the rationale for the sequencing of the three phases as well as a visual overview of the final completed site.

Martha Selby moved approval of the master plan; Cindy O'Dell seconded. The Committee then responded to questions from the congregation, including:

- Are we concerned about maintenance problems associated with a flat roof? Jim said that commercial flat roofs are common and care is being taken to design appropriate drainage.
- Will anything retain the Plumer name? The congregation can decide at any time during the process whether to use the Plumer name for any of the facilities.
- Is there concern about having no kitchen during the transition from phase 2 to phase 3? Jim acknowledge that this is going to be a challenge, but said we will need to use the Atwood kitchen for a while and then probably outsource ECC meals during the Atwood Building razing and replacement. It was suggested that we also consider a temporary modular kitchen.
- Have we considered using solar panels? Jim said we are considering them, but we are not required to include this level of detail in our conditional use permit at this time.
- Are we concerned that the proposed screened wall will appear to shield us from the public? Jim said the Building Committee felt this wall would provide a new face to the facility plus provide some acoustic privacy. The congregation would decide any wording that would appear on the screened wall.
- Where would the new handicapped parking be located? Jim indicated handicapped parking would be in the new front row.
- A member of the congregation commented that the plan is excellent and feels the process has been as well; the congregation gave thanks to the Committee for their work and to Jim for his leadership.

At the completion of the questions, the motion to approve the master plan was unanimously passed by the congregation.

Jerry Price presented proposed amendments to the IUCC bylaws in the absence of Bylaws Task Force Chair Dave Schofield. These changes were summarized in a handout provided in the meeting materials. Jennifer Mirmak moved approval of the amended bylaws; Ralph Pagter seconded. The Task Force responded to questions from the congregation, including:

- Are there any proposed changes to the Ministry of Congregational Care? There are no changes proposed for this ministry.
- What is happening with the Ministry of Congregational Participation? The Task Force found this ministry no longer functions as designed and recommends that it be eliminated. Instead, a New Member Development Ministry will be formed.

- Where will the Scout Troop be located? The Scout Troop will have an administrative home with the Ministry for Young People.

Following the questions, the motion to amend the bylaws as presented was approved unanimously by the congregation.

Anne thanked and recognized those serving in leadership positions during the past year, and then introduced and recognized the proposed leadership for 2014-15. She announced that Ken Wyant is the proposed Fund Development Co-Chair; his nomination was not included in the printed meeting materials.

Susie Lang moved approval of the 2014-15 leadership slate; Wayne Banwell seconded. The motion was approved unanimously by the congregation.

Treasurer Mark Allen gave a financial report, much of which focused on the financial status of the Early Childhood Center. The ECC has been losing significant money due to lower enrollment, and the Administration Board believes facility enhancements are necessary to revive enrollment. He said potential facility improvements include: repairing the air conditioning ductwork, play yard enhancements, and potentially new paint and carpet. The Congregation approved a \$25,000 allocation in January for technology enhancements in the sanctuary, but the Administration Board recently voted to reallocate \$22,500 of these funds for ECC improvements due to the urgency created by the current deficit. Mark then responded to questions, including:

- Does it make sense to invest in the current ECC if the master plan proposes replacing the building? Mark responded that the phase replacing the ECC is probably years away and we cannot afford to let ECC enrollment struggle for that long.
- Can building fund contributions be made before a formal capital campaign? Mark confirmed that they could.
- How can we track expenses for the building project? Mark pointed out the Capital Improvement Fun line item in the budget where such expenses would be applied

Felicity Figueroa moved to adjourn the meeting; Matt Mirmak seconded. The motion to adjourn was approved at 1:54pm.

Pastor Paul led the congregation in a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Price
Clerk, Administration Board