

Second Century Committee Meeting Minutes
July 9, 2014

Present:

Benson McGlone, Ralph Rowley, Steve Lantz, Joanne Griggs, Jeff Andrews, Ken Miller, Ellen Keeter, Oral Lambert, Harry Davis, Ann Shufflebarger, Tommy Drew, Rolfe Ashworth and Terry Jenkins

Following the welcome, introductions and opening prayer offered by Benson, the following agenda items were discussed:

- The June minutes were approved upon motion by Rolfe which was seconded by Steve.
- Terry provided an update on the following items:
 1. The Committee had the opportunity to visit Oak Grove UMC and Courthouse UMC – both of which had recently built family life centers. The Oak Grove facility has higher end finishes and is considerably larger than that built by Courthouse. The Courthouse facility is essentially a gymnasium with a stage which allows for contemporary worship as well as various musical programs. Nancy Clark, who provided the tour of Courthouse UMC, was the Administrative Assistant at the church when the addition was built. She no longer works there but is a part time employee in VBUMC Student Ministries. She has valuable insights and lessons learned that we could benefit from so we plan to involve her over the coming months.
 2. Terry met with Benson and Ralph to provide them an orientation of the building campaign from five years ago up to our current status.
- Steve brought the committee up to date with regard to the 18th Street proposal. Currently the Ellis Gibson offer is for a purchase price of \$2.6m plus the assumption of the debt associated with the Domino's property. They have asked for a response from the church by 9/30. If the church decided to sell the property, among the considerations are the following:
 - a. Loss of 50 parking spaces
 - b. Loss of annual parking lot revenue
 - c. Loss of asset (land) that is likely to grow in value over time
 - d. Concern regarding impact on Potters House ministries

If we needed additional space for outreach ministries, Steve asked Tommy to obtain information on rental costs near the church. Tommy has looked at various lease options and reported that square footage rental costs near the church are approximately

\$35/sq ft. As we continue to evaluate alternatives, the cost of potential rental sites is likely to increase.

- Committee Updates:
 1. Ken Miller reported on his meeting with Ministry Directors regarding space utilization needed for ministry. Overall staff see the need for larger rooms, more flexible space that can be used for multipurpose scheduling. A large fellowship hall which could be used for a variety of functions is a high priority as is appropriate storage for equipment, costumes, etc. Staff feel that outreach ministries could be incorporated into a newly designed north wing with appropriate security, communication capability, and staffing but would take a great deal of planning to assure the safety and compatibility of a multiuse facility.
 2. Terry distributed a copy of the scheduling of the south wing second and third floors as provided by Laura Ezell. She asked committee members to review the information as there is obviously opportunity to make better use of our existing space and this needs to be considered as we plan for the north wing.
 3. Steve, in response to questions regarding the loss of parking if the 18th Street property is sold, indicated that parking garage estimates are between \$14-\$15K/space. We would likely need to build a three floor garage which would have the potential for additional floors for future needs.
 4. Jeff Andrews, on behalf of the CLC, discussed the need for congregational input into the location of outreach ministries and the 18th Street proposal. Since ministry planning is the responsibility of the CLC, Jeff proposed that the CLC (with the support of the SCC and Trustees) hold Town Hall meetings with the congregation in August. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that this would be a valuable source of feedback especially at this point in our planning. Jeff will recommend to the CLC and then identify a planning group for the agenda which will focus on Potters House and the Ellis Gibson proposal.

Following the discussion regarding our facilities, Terry offered Ralph an opportunity to provide the group with his impressions and thoughts regarding our planning process. Ralph indicated that he and Benson are still very much in the “listening mode” given the complexity of the church. However he has formed some initial impressions about how he thinks we might focus in the future including the following:

- a. VBUMC should be a teaching church much like Floris UMC has developed this role in northern Virginia
- b. We should consider facilities which will allow us to host regional events sponsored by the Conference and the Elizabeth River District

- c. Given our experience with various ministries, we should consider an endowed church leadership series which would help support bringing in experts on various topics
- d. It is important that we find ways to partner with local businesses and local government so that we can create good will through partnerships that may well enhance our ministries.

Ralph plans to work with the ministry staff and lay leaders in the congregation to refine these ideas as we plan for the future.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned following a closing prayer offered by Ralph.