

## Second Century Committee Meeting

May 14, 2014

Members Present: Jeff Andrews, Rolfe Ashworth, Chuck Cassidy, Harry Davis, Tommy Drew, John Fowler, Terry Jenkins, Ellen Keeter, Oral Lambert, Steve Lantz, Ken Miller, Karen Millman, John Richards, Ann Shufflebarger, and Jennifer Vaughan.

Terry opened the meeting with prayer at 6:00 PM. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Mike Molzahn and Joseph Miller from HBA Architecture and Interior Design made a presentation on their firm and their vision for effective architecture considerations for churches. This included overviews of church projects on which they had previously worked, including those with limited space or special geographical considerations. HBA was the firm that worked with VBUMC on the renovation in 1999 and had drawn plans for the building committee in 2007. They shared their interest in working with VBUMC again.

### Committee Reports

#### Finance Committee:

- John Richards from the Finance Committee shared an overview of loan terms and options for the committee to consider. Three scenarios with regard to debt financing were presented as a starting point for discussion. Additional analysis will continue.
- Steve Lantz from the Trustees noted that the church is currently netting \$200,000-\$250,000 from the parking lot each year. It has been suggested that \$175,000 each year be set aside for debt retirement. However, there are concerns that this source of revenue has been traditionally been to cover deficits in the annual operating budget. Ken Miller noted that the Finance Committee and staff are currently planning next year's budget and are trying to keep it in line with current giving. Additional options regarding financing of facility enhancements will continue to be reviewed.
- Harry Davis cautioned that should there be a need to build a parking garage, the revenue from the parking lot will need to fund the cost of the garage which would obviously limit financing options for north wing enhancements as well as enhancements for Potters House. It was agreed that we need to communicate with the congregation as soon as we have a recommended plan. We need to determine how much additional capital campaign donations are likely to be available as we move forward.
- Jeff Andrews noted that we need to be aware of changing demographics and building for a generation that does not give in the same fashion as previous generations. There was discussion that a new building can grow interest and generate more contributions.
- In planning the budget, we will need to make strategic decisions regarding debt retirement and parking lot revenue. We will need to discuss these with the congregation. Terry suggested we begin this in August. There was discussion about how to best revive the capital campaign and pull in newer members. Marketing is going to be important. We will not be hiring another marketing firm.
- The plan from 6 years ago is still sound, but the vision and mission of the church and programs have changed significantly. It was suggested that we hire HBA to look at our former plan and merge it with our existing vision and needs assessment.

### Design Committee:

- Steve Lantz recommended that we use HBA again and forego soliciting proposals from companies. They have been selected by our church twice and have a good track record with the congregation. In addition, a great deal of the groundwork has already been done as part of the previous campaign. This will ultimately save money on the project. After discussion, Ann Shufflebarger proposed that we move forward with using HBA. Karen Millman seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously. Steve will ask the Finance Committee to endorse our request to spend up to \$25,000 from our capital campaign to engage HBA. If approved by Finance, then the motion would be made to the CLC during the May meeting.

### Vision Committee:

- Ministry directors will be doing the same type of analysis that the missions committee did. This will be an important informative point for our new pastors.

### Communications Committee:

- The church has updated its website. The Second Century Committee has its own page under "About Us". Minutes from each meeting are posted there.

### Next Steps:

- The Finance Committee will continue their work on determining what we can afford.
- It is important to generate excitement so that new members will make pledges and members who stopped giving when the previous campaign stopped will fulfill their pledges.
- Oral Lambert reminded us of the importance of not underestimating what God can have us do in His honor. We shouldn't underestimate what we are capable of.
- John Fowler will talk to the city planning director to get clarification of zoning laws impacting our church property.
- We need to consider how plans for renovating the sanctuary will be incorporated into our overall plans. Preliminary plans have already been developed and a generous donation has been made toward this.

### Proposed Timeline:

- Prior to the next meeting on June 11, the Design Committee will work with HBA. John Fowler will meet with the city planner. The Vision Committee will begin work with ministry directors.
- Begin discussions with new ministers in July.
- Begin meetings with the congregation after Labor Day.

Oral Lambert closed with prayer at 7:50.

Respectfully submitted, Ann Shufflebarger