



Leadership Board Minutes for June 4, 2024
Parker United Methodist Church
11805 S. Pine Drive, Parker, CO 80134

Leadership Board Members:

Kim Bimestefer (Co-Chair)
Ron Wyckoff (Co-Chair)
Steve Brase
Lacye Cahill
Susan Gustin
David Haukeness
Julie Kronbach, Lay Leader
Doug McKinney

Laura Easter Rainwater, Senior Pastor
Li Roberson
Eric Ross
Elizabeth Gore Stanley
Linda Thomas
Emily Shaffer, Little Blessings Preschool Director

Members joined by Zoom:

Elizabeth Gore Stanley

Members not in Attendance:

Lacye Cahill
David Haukeness
Laura Easter Rainwater

Visitors

Lisa Jackson
Mark Jackson

- I. Call to order: Ron called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.
- II. Opening devotion: Julie shared a devotion on a prayer of indifference – indifference to all but God’s will
- III. Review and approval of minutes of May 7, 2024
 - A. Eric moved to approve, Julie seconded
- IV. Business items
 - A. Groundworks proposal to mitigate drainage problems
 1. Proposal approved by Leadership Board Fall 2023
 2. Work postponed until could be coordinated with preschool needs since would involve digging up current playground
 3. Groundworks proposal has been updated, now more expensive by about \$5000
 - a. Expanded scope
 4. Kim -- question on guarantees being provided by Groundworks
 - a. Mark, Julie pointed to clauses in contract that provide guarantees as to the quality of the work, Groundworks response in case of future problems
 - b. Julie – probably as good as we can expect
 5. Kim moved that we accept the new proposal; Li seconded
 - a. Approved unanimously
 6. Board member (probably Ron) will have to sign new proposal
- V. Team reports
 - A. Little Blessings
 1. Update on playground project

2. Want to accept bid for \$89,000 from Playground Boss (out of Texas)
 3. Current funding situation
 - a. Little Blessings has raised about \$25,000 through fundraising efforts
 - 1) This would be enough for a down payment on the project
 - b. In addition, Little Blessings has committed to set aside \$5000/month from their budget, which will total \$40,000
 - c. They will have a shortfall of \$25,000
 - d. Would like approval from the Leadership Board to use \$25,000 from the rainy day fund to meet that shortfall
 - 1) Rainy day fund shared by church, Little Blessings
 - 2) Includes significant COVID funds generated by both church and Little Blessings, but particularly Little Blessings
 - 3) Discussion below under Finance team report
 4. Work has to be coordinated with Groundworks drainage mitigation project
- B. Finance team
1. Linda presented an updated Memo of Understanding between Little Blessings, the church administration and the Leadership Board
 - a. Spells out ongoing financial obligations, procedures
 2. Kim – expressed concern about approving the \$25,000 to Little Blessings and the resulting 10% depletion of the rainy day fund
 - a. Asked for an update on projected overall shortfall for 2024, which would also be covered from the rainy day fund
 3. Linda – Dan O’Neill is working on a “worst-case” scenario
 - a. Also have two teams in place, the Finance team and Mortgage team, tasked with looking at how to improve our financial situation
 4. Kim – can we wait a month to make this decision so can have more information about overall financial situation?
 5. Doug – the playground is a need for Little Blessings
 - a. Current playground is not safety compliant
 - b. We have a tight window of opportunity to get both the drainage problems AND the playground construction done – delaying not a good idea
 6. Discussion of terminology – this would not be a loan to Little Blessings, in the sense that there is no expectation that they would have to pay it back
 7. Kim – why is Little Blessing choosing this company for the playground?
 8. Emily – they have been good to work with, have good reviews, do not require all of the payment up front
 9. Kim moved that “In order to get the playground in compliance with safety regulations and to mitigate the drainage problems of the church, we approve the allocation of \$25,000 to Little Blessings from the rainy day fund to complete the playground upgrade”
 - a. Eric seconded the motion
 - b. Passed unanimously
 10. Linda requested approval of the updated Memo of Understanding
 - a. Julie moved; Li seconded the motion
 - b. Passed unanimously
 11. Ron will sign the contract with Playground Boss on behalf of the Leadership Board

VI. New business

- A. Ron – we need a champion from the Leadership Board to plan the celebration of the re-opening of Fellowship Hall
- B. Ron – recommends that the Leadership Board provide a gift basket for the silent auction with the September golf tournament

1. Need a champion to lead that effort as well
 2. Doug – will the baskets be at the church the day before the tournament to encourage the congregation to participate?
 3. Ron – not currently the plan of the tournament team
 - a. Ron invited Doug to come to the next tournament team meeting (July 8) to make his case
- C. Elizabeth – what about the possibility of opening up the LB meetings to the church as a whole through the Zoom link?
1. Linda – not sure there would be much response as there has been no response to the financial information that is provided to the congregation

VII. Next meeting

- A. Tuesday, July 2, 2024 about 7:00 p.m. Will follow Redemptive Compassion training
- B. Eric will provide the devotion

VIII. Kim closed us in prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Review of Minutes: The meeting minutes of June 4, 2024 were submitted to Laura and Ron for review on June 5, 2024.

Susan Gustin, Leadership Board Member