

Alamo Heights UMC
Board of Stewards – Agenda
February 15, 2024
5:00 pm in W100

Members Present: David Kinder, Carol Cauley, Dan St. Romain, Doran Dennis, Brian Griffin, James Smith, Johnny Boyd, Brian Nash, Steve Waters, Charles Johnson, Pat Crump, Amy Wilcox, Roger Lind

Staff Present: Jason Adams, Janet Weatherston, Darrell Smith, Donna Strieb, Linda Baumheckel, Jeff Guillory, Valerie Slade

Guest: Renee Kizziar, Foundation Leadership

Members Absent: Jack Rodgers, Hill Ojeda, Thad Ziegler

Welcome David Kinder

Minutes: November 16th meeting: Approved.

Prayer Darrell Smith

Introductions: David Kinder asked each person present to introduce themselves.

Overview of Board of Stewards: Each member of the BOS received a packet containing AHUMC's identity and purpose statement, Bylaws, and General Responsibilities of the BOS. He stated that Jason is the Spiritual Leader of the church, and Valerie is responsible for the operations of the church. He emphasized that the role of the BOS is to provide a high-level oversight (or governance) of the missions and activities of the church. Church staff have the responsibility of the daily management of the church. He complimented church staff on the professional way that they carry out the ministries of the church.

Finance Update: Jeff Guillory presented the 2023 year-end financial results (report attached). He stated that tithes/offerings were 2.2% higher than 2022. Plate cash, interest, and facility fees all showed growth for the year. AHUMC paid it's full apportionment for 2023. Expenses were \$180K less than planned. The church ended the year with \$64K surplus.

Jeff also reviewed January operating results. He noted that tithes and offerings totaled \$170K which is slightly more than 2022. Households giving increased by 10% in January 2023 as compared to the same time in 2022. Expenses were \$28K under budget which resulted in net activity of 20K more than planned for the month.

2024 Operating Budget: Valerie Slade presented the 2024 operating budget for approval. Total expenses for 2024 are planned at \$3,149,955. This is a 2% decrease over 2023. Projected receipts are planned at \$3,006,529. This is a 2%

decrease- a result of a reduced contribution from the AHUMC Foundation. The net operating budget forecasts a \$143K deficit which will be covered by continued expense savings, continued growth in tithes and offerings, and the application of the surplus funds from 2023.

Valerie announced that Jeff Guillory has been promoted to Finance Director. The BOS clapped in approval. Johnny Boyd praised the business staff for their hard work on the 2024 budget. David Kinder praised Jason for his leadership in which has led to growth in our membership base and the ability to fully pay 2023 apportionments.

Mission Central and the Wesley Nurse: Janet Weatherston reported that the Wesley Nurse office is ready for occupation in the West Wing. We are fortunate to have a Wesley Nurse assigned to our church. The Wesley Nurse assignment originated at the Asbury campus and MHM continued this partnership when Mission Central was moved to Basse Road. The Mission Central office is fully operational in the West Wing as well.

Trustee's Update: Steve Waters informed the board that AHUMC will serve as a reunification site for the AHISD. He also informed the BOS that a NE parking lot ground lease is not a viable option at this time. It is likely that a sale of this 1.9 acres is a better option. The trustees will continue to explore alternatives, and there will be a Town Hall on March 6th to update the congregation on our options.

Steve also reported that the trustees approved a request from our District Superintendent that AHUMC grant \$300K of the San Pedro Proceeds for urban ministries within the Las Misiones District. After 18 months of prayer for God's direction regarding the proceeds, our pastors feel led to keep our Mission Central (renamed from Asbury) ministry on our campus along with a Wesley Nurse. This enables the church to grant a portion of the proceeds to assist ongoing urban ministries within the district, thus, maximizing the impact of our church and the district to assist our neighbors in our community. The release of funds will occur over a 3-year period, and AHUMC will approve the ministries which will receive the funding. The breakdown of the grants follows:

- \$75k for the Metro Mission Board
- \$75K for existing District Ministries
- \$150K for new District Ministries- AHUMC will review the requests for funding before grants are released.

Senior Pastor's Comments: Jason mentioned that the Town Hall is necessary to make sure that we continue to be intentional about informing our congregation about decisions that leadership makes on behalf of the church. It is important that we hear from our congregation. It is important that the leadership of the church is sensitive to the feelings of our congregation. Jason also mentioned that he and Kalenda will be attending a conference for the top 100 UM churches in Scottsdale, Arizona. The conference is hosted by Adam Hamilton and will be focused on the future of the UM church. Jason's vision for our church is that we make an impact on

our community- blessing the people of our community and fulfilling their spiritual needs.

BOS Chair Comments: David mentioned that church leadership can get caught up in the numbers or statistics of our church like how many bulletins we need to print each Sunday. He would encourage our leadership to focus on the impact of our programs on our community. If we focus on loving our neighbors, everything else will fall into place. He closed with “shared joy is double joy; shared sorrow is half sorrow.”

Next meeting will be on March 21, at 5 pm in W100.