

April Council Meeting Minutes
April 20th 2026 at 6 pm; Hybrid (in person + Zoom)

Present: Pastor Steve, Lynn Caldwell, Eric Breitenstein, Morgan Wright, Amy Atkins, Kristie Evans, Liz Peter, Jesse Lutabingwa, Jonathan Stamey, Mike Seden, & James Holden

Absent: Jennifer Davis

1. Call to Order – Made by James @ 6:03 PM
2. Devotion – Liz. A visitor was at our recent church luncheon. She was glad they felt comfortable enough to stay; they did have some interaction with congregants. Liz thought about how Jesus noticed people. What did he notice about them? The people he often interacted with were often overlooked or ignored. Maybe we could slow down and talk to better understand people; take the time to intentionally interact. Jesus would often ask “what do you want me to do for you?” Maybe we could say something similar and then really listen to their response; listen to them and become a little more vulnerable.
3. Ground Rules – Reviewed by James
 - Please raise your hand to indicate that you would like to speak.
 - Please give your name and state your views on the matter under discussion, including any questions or concerns you may have.
 - In order to allow others ample opportunity to join in the conversation, please keep any subsequent comments by you on the issue/motion succinct and to the point.
 - Please remain quiet when others have the floor so everyone can hear.
 - Please be respectful of those voicing differing opinions.
4. Congregational Input
 - Amy: Noticed that some council members still need council member badges. Lynn sent an email to ask Sabena about them.
 - James:
 - Dana Holden - re: playground plan, rubber mulch stinks.
 - Martha Krezock - capital campaign well organized and well done; has positive feelings about it.
5. Approval of March Council Meeting Minutes - Lynn made a motion to approve the March council meeting minutes. Jesse seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.
6. Strategic Visioning – James
 - A. Review Organizational Chart and Liaison Assignments
 - B. Council Goal-Setting Process

7. Policy – James

8. Monitoring and Oversight

A. Reports:

- 1) Senior Pastor Report - Attendance was 220 on Easter. Mike asked how that has changed year after year. P. Steve wants to track year-over-year attendance for Christmas Eve, Palm Sunday, Holy Week, etc.
 1. To avoid having 2 services at Easter next year, perhaps more aggressive ushering of members is needed to fit more people in the pews
- 2) Campus Ministry Coordinator
- 3) Music Ministry Report
- 4) Office Manager Report
- 5) Facilities Report
- 6) Treasurer Report
 1. Monies not diverted from the general fund giving to the capital campaign last month

9. Old Business

1) Capital Campaign Updates

- a. Gifts and pledges received to date
 - i. \$90K received to date. This covers the roof replacement and ½ the parking lot project.
 - ii. Another \$35K would cover the Councill House repair and the remainder of the parking lot project
 - iii. We have enough cash to cover existing contracts underway
 - iv. 6 weeks in and results seem good
 - v. Pledged monies update to come next month
- b. Projects' update
 - i. Roof Replacement - May 11th (tentative) start date or later
 - ii. Councill House Update – Property: scope of work development status?
 1. All of the indoor units and 2 of the 4 outdoor units have come in
 2. After these are received by the service provider they can start, possibly mid-week this week
 3. The house is currently operational
 - iii. Parking Lot Expansion - to start mid-late May. Registration is already open for parking space rentals next fall (including new spaces). We are already receiving some applicants.
 - iv. Grace Place Update –Bid status?
 1. Still working on it. No bids asked for yet.
 2. Anna is to create a Scope of Work.

3. Members have rental property that they offered free of use in the event the Grace Place is unavailable for housing.
 - v. Playground Project – contractor chosen; on hold until funds are received.
 1. Perhaps move this up the timeline. Positive momentum. Grace Place improvements are not as much of an emergency as free alternate housing is available. Gives time for good planning of Grace Place improvements.
 2. Motion made by Lynn to move the playground project up the capital campaign priority list. Morgan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous; the motion passed.
 - vi. Operational Cash Reserve - TBD
- 2) Wilkes Property Sale Endowment Fund Creation and bylaws - (April 19th)
 - a. Follow up: endowment committee formation - later date (August)
 - 3) Full-Time Director of Congregational Life Position
 - a. First interview committee meeting recap
 - i. We had 8 qualified candidates.
 - ii. Salary plus housing arrangements was a draw for the position.
 - iii. 4 to be interviewed, 1 said “no thank you”.
 - iv. The top 3 to be interviewed within the next week. The committee may have a decision by Saturday. Then we’ll better understand the housing needs.
 1. Grace Place updates may be a year out.
 2. Grace Place will be the next parsonage (due to the high cost of housing in Boone). We should do project updates right.
 - b. Hiring procedure - Council will vote on the candidate. Date to be determined.
 - 4) Application of facility use fees (similar to wedding facility use fees) for outside events not directly associated with a non-profit organization or church member.
 - a. Fee program development status
 - i. Add info about parking lot use
 - ii. Discussion - clarification and wording suggestions given
 - iii. Jonathan - sometimes the church needs to act like a business; lay out what they get when they use the property
 - iv. Mike - mentioned use of “property management fee” term at another church for space
 - v. “Goods for services are permitted” - discussion of, council approval for such? It was agreed to strike this from the proposed plan.

C. New Business

- 1) Facility Requests –

- a) American Red Cross - high school student project. P. Steve made a motion to approve this request. Eric seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous; the motion passed.
- 2) Council Retreat breakfast and refreshments
 - a) Bring breakfast and other snacks
 - b) Liz to send out a sign-up sheet
- 3) Removal of pew/permanent plan for handicap accessible seating
 - a) P. Steve made a motion to create a task force to address handicap accessible seating in the sanctuary with Lynn to head up the project. Amy seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

9. Meeting adjourned with prayer – Liz

Upcoming Devotion List:

May - Jennifer

June - Jonathan

July - P. Steve

Aug - Morgan