

Covenant Presbyterian Church

Athens, Ga.

April 27, 2021

A stated session meeting, called according to the Book of Order, was held via Zoom on April 27, 2021. Mark Harper welcomed everyone and declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. A welcome and devotional was given by Rindy Trouteaud. Her topic was how to tie the work ahead together. She referred to Mark's sermon on "Waiting", what are the next steps, and how difficult waiting is. Now what? Paying attention to the needs of the people. Memories are important learning tools too, and to watch, wait, and feel the movement of the Spirit. She then opened the meeting with a prayer.

Elders Present: Clayton Adams, Kathy Boardman, Don Bower, Kay Brooks, Paige Campbell, Jennifer Frey, Linda Koehler, Steve Rathbun, Rich Reeves, Sarah Shannon, and Chris Wilson.

Elders Absent: Brian Striggow

Others Present: Mark Harper, Rindy Trouteaud, Travis Williams, Wick Prichard, and Katy Terry.

Minutes and Financial Report

The minutes from the March 23, 2021 were reviewed. Chris Wilson moved to accept the minutes with a second by Clayton Adams. **The motion was passed unanimously.**

The financial report was reviewed, with no questions asked Rich Reeves moved that the financial report be accepted and Paige Campbell seconded it. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Solar Panel Update

Rich Reeves explained that another offer from another solar panel company has been submitted. The company is Turn Sol of Athens, Ga, which is owned by Drew Bowan Electric Company. It will cost in the neighborhood of \$92,000.00 - \$95,000.00 for the installation, it will be between 40-42 kilowatts in size, and we may be able to sell back excess power to Georgia Power or possibly convert our gas furnaces to electric. Installation could start as early as August or September 2021.

A motion was made to allow Rich Reeves to enter into a contract agreement with Turn Sol by Paige Campbell and seconded by Chris Wilson. **Motion Passed unanimously.**

A motion was made by Paige Campbell with a second by Chris Wilson to authorize Rich Reeves to work with the finance committee to work out the details of financing the Turn Sol contract. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Follow-up on purchase or rental of a van/bus

Rindy Trouteaud reported on her findings of the cost of renting a 15 passenger van/bus and purchasing a bus. New and used prices were offered and also, due to the pandemic, used vehicles are more difficult to find. New busses cost about \$35,050 and used ones on the low end run about \$18,000. Rentals start on the low end of \$6,000 to the higher end of \$10,000, each for a 2 month period. Further discussion brought up the ideas of borrowing a vehicle from another church or the Clarke County School District. Insurance, upkeep, and vehicle storage were also discussed if a bus were to be purchased. Two motions were made:

1. Steve Rathbun made a motion to hold \$8,000.00 to rent a vehicle for the two month period in discussion for this summer. Chris Wilson seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**
2. A motion was made to reserve the remainder of the unexpected funds for the purchase of a vehicle if found to be the best way to go at a later date by Steve Rathbun with a second by Sarah Shannon. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Creation of Nominating Committee

Mark explained, that due to the Covid-19 shutdown, maybe we should forego the congregational aspect of selecting a nominating committee this year. The difficulties in getting enough people to sign in for a virtual meeting were the main reasons. Therefore, he suggested Kay Brooks and Tim Foutz to become the committee. Don Bower made the suggestion that a member of the former Central congregation be included on this committee. Chris Wilson agreed to serve in that capacity. A motion, made by Don Bower with a second by Jennifer Frey, to accept Kay Brooks, Tim Foutz, and Chris Wilson as the nominating committee. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Summer Camp Update

Travis Williams introduced Wick Prichard. Wick will be running the summer camp along with Travis and others. They are still working out final details, but all things seem to be well organized and ready to go. They are hopeful to serve 40-50 kids over the two month period of camps with 10-15 students per camp session. The "Grow It, Know It" concept will be a large part of the curriculum. The plan is to balance the "fun" with the needs of the community and education. The Verbrugges' are transferring the remainder of the Jason Verbrugge account to this program. Other groups that will have a hand in this program are UGarden, Campus Kitchen, and AMERCO members.

Recommendation from Personnel

Katy Terry presented a motion to the session from the Personnel Ministry Team: to expand the job of Asher Hill to full time Audio Visual Technical Director with an annual salary of \$45,000.00, plus FICA benefits, bringing the total salary to about \$50,000.00. Job title and salary beginning July 1, 2021. After a few questions and clarifications **Motion passed unanimously.**

Presbytery Meeting on May 18, 2021

Steve Rathbun and Chris Wilson volunteered to serve as elder representatives to the May 18, 2021 ZOOM Presbytery meeting.

Motion to Adjourn

Paige Campbell made a motion to adjourn with a second by Jennifer Frey. **Motion passed unanimously**

Mark Harper closed with prayer.

Next Meeting: May 25th, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Mark Harper, Moderator

Luanne Rigsby, Clerk

Katy Terry, substitute for this meeting