

Administrative Board
May 25, 2008
Brevard FUMC

The meeting was called to order by Charles Gilmore at 12:20pm
Rev Mike Jordan opened with prayer.

Charles Gilmore said that this meeting will be considered a continuation of our May 8th meeting to act on moving forward with or temporarily slowing action on a Long Range Facilities Plan. The Board of Trustees has asked that we take action to move forward with that plan. We are going to have one motion to move forward with the plan as recommended by the trustees. A second motion is to table the facilities plan to 2009 and thirdly not move forward. We will see if we really need a time of discussion and then will go through the formal process and then do the voting. So that voting can be done without any controversy it will be done by paper ballot.

Mary Arnaudin handed out a Relational Covenant from the Power Point Ministries and talked about the retreat. She reminded us that we need to remember what God wants us to do and how to decide what it is that God wants us to do. She thinks it is important that we gain input from the congregation. She suggested that the church bring a bag lunch and stay after the service one Sunday (June 29th) for this effort. She feels that this is relating to the long range plan. Mark Bailey asked how long it can take for the new covenant to be adopted. No time line was given.

Don Campbell gave a summary of what the project was all about. The Administrative Board decided that they needed some discussion. Don said that he was approached by John Dorner, the past chairman, and asked to head up the committee to research and start the long range planning. The committee met and they decided to set the goals so that there would have no surprises. They still do not have a long range plan. Erwin Hittel had said he would like to see a plan for the next 50 years. Don said that he felt that 5 years was all we could do. He said that there is nothing romantic or exciting about purchasing a toilet or replacing electric. When they decided to get expert advise, Jim Alderman suggested that they ask the Harrises of Harris Architects. Ellen and Doug Harris met with them two weeks later. They came up with a very good price. See proposal attached.

He stated that he has done what the last years chairman asked him to do and he feels this is a very good plan. All property, parking lot, building, are considered in this plan. When they started the sound system was not in the plan. It was agreed by the committee that the sound system be done by Erwin Hittel since he was already working on it. He feels that it would be foolish to discuss it without putting this good information to work. No matter what the outcome is we are still going to need toilets, electric upgrades, etc. If we wait until next year all of our information will be outdated. The question was asked "Is the Council of Ministries included in this committee?" Don said "no" but that they could be. The immediate question is that we have a proposal from Harris Architects and it is a good price. We would like to do this, but how are we going to pay for it. Peter Johnson answered that what we are concerned about is not how we would fund the whole project but how we fund the Harris Architects proposal. He said we have accumulated some money in the operational money in a money market account separate from our checking account. Primarily, we opened the account in 2006 when we had a \$10,000 surplus and 2007 a \$20,000 surplus from budgeted money not used. This money has been set aside as reserve funds. He was approached could we get a line of credit for the \$30,000. The finance committee decided that that it would rather pay it over a period of time assuming we are liquid in our budget.

Ray Garner asked if the furnace goes could we pay for it. Peter said “no”, that we could not pay it now. The question was asked have any plans been made to raise the money. Ray wanted to know if we would borrow the money for the long range facility project. He was afraid we would pull out money from our other funds – the parking lot is still not paid for.

Mark Bailey suggested that we do a study of where the money would come from.

Don said that at this time we did not have enough information to go to the congregation to ask for the pledges. If we couldn't raise enough, then we need to decide what we need to take out of the plan.

Bob Haywood said that he feels that the value of the long range proposal would show what the needs are so we would have a specific list of our needs and the costs.

Scott Moser said that this was to tell us what we have to have at this time, not including any architecture drawings, just getting the dust mites out of our pocket before we proceed.

Charles Gilmore asked for a trustee to make a motion.

Volney Tinsley said we have come through numerous long range plans and we couldn't act on them because money was not available in the past when they were presented, all lacked enthusiasm. He asked that we start thinking outside the box to find where we need to be. This committee has their heart in it and is sincere about it and will work for it. Most everything in our church is 50 years old and there is a lot that doesn't meet our needs today and will not meet our needs for the next 50 years. We can't get there without preliminary qualified professional help. We have gone as far as we can now without professional help. This gives us an opportunity to move forward. He presented a motion that we accept the plan.

Don Campbell seconded the motion.

Jim Whitcomb presented an alternate. He wanted it understood that he did not wish to stop discussion but to allow more time for it. He moved to table the vote on this until 2009. The date for reconsideration presumably would be the Administrative Board's decision.

Charles Gilmore opened the floor for discussion.

Peter Johnson asked to give the Harris Architects proposal fee a 2 minute summary.

1. Focus on the third portion of their proposal - various ministries and finding where we want to go could take an indefinite period of time. They have given us an hourly rates for taking the existing church plans and putting them into a computer. This will give us a basis for working with various alternates, based on our evolving ministries concepts, and making decisions on how we can accommodate them in our facility.

2. How long the committee has to come up with the vision. They don't want to sit in on all of these discussions. First paragraph of the second page of the proposal. Harris Architects will coach us. This will likely go well into 2009. Kerry explained that they want to sit down with us and guide us so we can understand what we want.

Volney Tinsley said he doesn't have enough information yet to know what we want. We need to do our homework. The architect can work with the information we give them. We need a good information package to decide what we can do. This is to try to help us talk from an educated standpoint.

Jim Whitcomb asked if we accept the Harris Architects' proposal for \$30,000 where the additional funding will come from. He feels like we could use resources within our congregation to find out where we are going.

Scott Moser said once we spend the \$25-\$30,000 we still can't go to the congregation to get the actual proposed program.

Charles Gilmore referred to his past church experience in programming for a new education wing. The professionals put together concepts, enough that they could develop type, size, etc. of what it could be. That gave them a concept plan that was developed further into a budget for detailed design and construction. After that they went into a capital campaign. At that stage they brought in people from the conference to direct them in running a capital campaign. Because they knew what they wanted and had a plan to get there, individual congregants were willing to make financial commitments to the project.

Carol Dodson said energy was divided on 2 different things – How do we keep this going: We have started with our energy on the Vision of ministries. She feels that the Long Range Facilities Plan project also needs to be done. The main concern is that one doesn't get ahead of the other. She also asked for different budget reporting in the bulletin so that it could be easier understood as to our actual financial status.

Phyllis Blunt sees no conflict between our Vision of Ministries and the facility planning, that they go hand in hand. All the information will be reflected as we get the information from Harris Architects.

Volney Tinsley referred to the last paragraph on second page of the Harris proposal: all ideas be brought together – no one, no group, no sector be left out.

Mary Arnaudin pointed out that integrated would be a better word.

Ray Garner asked about storage of medical supplies where we can store them, that currently they are being stored in his house. He was assured that that was an example of some of the things that were included in our research.

Charles Gilmore mentioned the elevator plans and the need to work it out.

Peter Johnson said that Jim had brought up a good point of getting to the point of running both “tracks” and the question was called.

The motion on tabling the project until 2009 was first. Charles Gilmore reminded everyone that only members

of the Administrative Board are qualified to vote. He read the list of qualified voters. Written ballots were distributed. The vote to table the project failed with only 2 votes in favor.

The second motion was to move forward with the Harris Architects' proposal. Vote carried by a large majority. Charles Gilmore asked everyone to read and prepare for the Relational Covenant retreat on June 29th.

John Dorner moved we dismiss. Meeting was dismissed 1:32 pm.