

CALLED CHURCH CONFERENCE
August 22, 2021

Jim Tew, moderator

1. Call to Conference
2. Approval of July 21 Quarterly Church Conference Minutes
3. Ratification of July 21 Conference actions
4. Nominating Committee report -- Cathy Owen
5. Adjournment

First Baptist Church Quarterly Church Conference Minutes July 21, 2021

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Assistant Church Moderator Linda Jones, who then opened the meeting with prayer. Linda noted that a quorum was not present, however, the meeting will continue on an informal basis subject to later ratification.¹
2. The Quarterly Church Conference minutes of April 14, 2021 were unanimously approved.
3. The Membership Report was reviewed which reported three losses from the transfer of membership and two losses from the deaths of Donald McCollum and William Ware.
4. Cathy Owen, Co-Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the list of members recommended to fill the Church positions for Church Officers, Committees and Ministry Team Leaders for the year 2022. Owen stated in response to a question that all vacancies had been filled. A motion was made to approve the Nominating Committee recommendations which passed unanimously. (See Attachment A, p5-6).
5. Jim Tew presented the report for the Finance Committee. He noted that in October 2020, it was voted by the congregation to continue the funding plan of 2020 into the first six months of 2021 because of the uncertainty caused by the COVID Virus and the disruption to normal church activities. Contributions receipts are behind 14% from last year's giving, expenses have exceeded contributions by \$45,000 through June. We normally have a slight deficit for the first six months but this deficit is more than normal. The Finance Committee is preparing the 2022 budget, which will include expense cuts; however, we are back in person now, which is a plus. Also, the second half of the year is typically stronger than the first half of the year. Jim made a motion to keep the same budget plan for

¹ Prior to the call to order, it was determined by the Assistant Church Moderator, that a quorum of 50 members was not present for the regularly scheduled Quarterly Church Conference(QCC) being held via Zoom. It was decided that pursuant to Roberts Rules of Order, which per the Church Bylaws Article VI, Section 2 (j) controls the conduct of meetings, the QCC would proceed with the understanding that a later properly called QCC would be asked to ratify the informal action taken at the July 21 meeting. (See Robert's Rules of Order, 12th Edition, Newly Revised, 2020, Section 40:6-10, and Section 10: 54-57).

the remainder of 2021 that was for the second six months of 2020. Further, no unspent budget dollars for the first half of this year will carry over to the last half. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Gary Stiffler presented a proposed Legacy Fund Plan that has been approved unanimously by the Deacons at a call meeting on July 12. The formation of the Legacy Fund was first discussed before the pandemic. The Plan calls for FBC's five mission funds to make up the Legacy Fund, i. e., Stokes Fund, Whitley Fund, Armstrong Foreign Missions Fund, McCachern Fund, and the Green Fund. Two others, the John 3:16 Fund and the First Baptist Missions Fund will not be a part of the Legacy Fund, since they are funds immediately available for mission causes. The corpus for these five Funds total \$733,867.56. These funds designate that 70.5% will be spent for foreign missions and 29.5% for local and home missions. The Funds will be invested under the managed Church investment portfolio. The June 30 balance including interest of these funds is: \$823,192.76. The names of donors to these funds will be prominently included with the Fund publicity. Gary made a motion for the church to create the Legacy Fund. No second is needed since the motion is coming from the Deacons. The vote to approve was unanimous.

7. Pastor Emily noted that on June 30, the Finance Committee held a Zoom meeting to present the projections for the budget and there was a robust conversation with many questions presented and answered. She had concluded that meeting with the words of our vision statement and asked those in the meeting to repeat the statement with her. She pointed out that the ministers in many other churches are asking how to fund ministries and how to grow and nourish ourselves as a church. We should realize we are not alone with the challenges of today across our cities, and CBF churches. She will be working to form a group to work on our stewardship. Finance works on how we spend our dollars for the programs we want to support. But we need to put emphasis on how we use our stewardship and generosity.

Pastor Emily noted that a survey will be coming from the Church the first of the next week and how important it is to participate by responding to it. It will be very helpful in helping us decide that which we need to be doing as a Church.

8. Linda noted the Scholarship Report and those receiving assistance in their seminary educations from FBC. There are six individuals receiving support from the Blackwell Memorial Fund, and one person supported by the Ida Tilson Fund. Gary Stiffler also reported on the Reece Scholarship Fund which is managed by

Wells Fargo but administered by FBC. The Reece Fund is assisting five students in the coming year.

9. Other Business: Martha Davis, asked the following questions but stated that she did not need answers at the meeting:
 - (1) Where will the survey results go? Pastor Emily responded that the results would go to the Covid Task Force, but she was not sure of circulation of the results beyond that group.
 - (2) How many children are in the youth programs and why is that number not growing? Response to be given later.
 - (3) Why are we hiring a Communications Specialist when we have budget issues? Pastor Emily noted that we have three full time ministerial positions and three part-time positions which are contracted until June 2022, and two of individuals have jobs outside the Church. John Young is part time and Sally is the only full time support staff individual. The position previously held by Amy Cook has not been filled and her work is being covered by the Church staff, which limits the ability to engage in other ministry initiatives. The position will be largely funded by a grant and is mission critical.

10. The meeting was adjourned following a prayer by Pastor Emily.

Submitted by Tommy Henley, Assistant Church Clerk

Attachment A: Report from the Nominating Committee
Recommendations of Members to Serve in 2022

Church Officers:

Treasurer: Mark Williams - 2024
Assistant Treasurer: Jim Pepper - 2024
Clerk: Tommy Henley - 2024
Assoc Clerk: Marty Cook - 2024

Committees

Finance Committee

Leslie Lowdermilk – **chair 2022**
Nancy Hawley – 2024
David Smelcer – 2024
Matt Steen – 2024
Jim Pepper (filling unexp term-2021)

House & Grounds Committee

Robert Parker – **chair 2022**
John Hanes – 2023
Mark Thompson – 2023
Kim Wilkinson - 2023

Missions Committee

Joy Gambill – **chair 2022**
Laura Ball – 2023
Steve Smith - 2023
Lee Anne Stiffler - 2023

Personnel Committee

Gordon Thompson – **chair 2022**
Phil Batten – 2023
Sherry Tew – 2023
Joe Thompson - 2023

Policy Committee

Nancy Baxley – **chair 2022**
Wally Cox – 2023
Paul McElroy – 2023
Gary Stiffler – 2023

Scholarship Committee

Lynn Parker – **chair 2022**
Elmer Hayashi – 2023
Jim Nelson – 2023
Holly Norton – 2023

Ministry Team Leadership

Adult Ministry Team

Mary Foskett 2022
Anna Harris 2022

Bereavement Ministry Team

Beth Stainback 2022
Martha Teague 2022

Children's Ministry Team

Victoria Crandall 2022
Kim Wilkinson 2022

Homebound Ministry Team

Minerva Fox 2022
Florence Wiley 2022

Hospitality Ministry Team

Cindi Goins 2022
Linda Stewart 2022

New Member Ministry Team

Pat Messick 2022
Carol Wilkinson 2022

Senior Adult Ministry Team

Linda Lewis 2022
Fran Stewart 2022

Youth Ministry Team

Kim Towles 2022

Music/Arts Ministry Team

Carlos Mir 2022
Twyla Nelson 2022

Outreach Ministry Team

Kate Masten 2022
Holly Solomon 2022

Worship Ministry Team

Alice Cox 2022
Ralph Messick 2022