

Timberlake Church Council

Tuesday, September 19, 2023, Hughes Hall

Timberlake Church Council met on Tuesday, September 19 at 6:30 pm in Hughes Hall. Dean Nuckles called the meeting to order at 6:32pm and Susan Brandt opened in prayer.

Those in attendance were Brad McMullen (Lead Pastor), Dean Nuckles (Council Chair), Mark Coleman (Executive Director), TJ Martin (Trustees Chair), Stephen Tibbs (SPPRC Chair), GW Hall (Strategic Leader), Carl Stinnett (Treasurer), Susan Brandt (Lay Leader), Kim Lancaster (Strategic Leader), Kathy Presley (Mission Chair), Robin Grier (Finance Chair), Christina Tilley (CDC Chair) and Julie Polk (secretary).

August minutes were approved by consensus.

Pastor's Report: The advertised preaching class will be offered in the Spring 2024 instead of the Fall 2023. A letter explaining the class and offering for anyone in that church to attend, was sent to every disaffiliated church in our area and no one responded. Waiting until Spring 2024 will be better timing for Timberlake staff, as well. It will be held on Wednesday afternoons for 1.5 hours for 8 weeks. In addition, any member from Timberlake can take the class.

The nominations process is moving forward for January 2024. Mark and Brad are reaching out to those involved.

The preaching plan of topics for 2024 has been posted on Planning Center. Please take the time to review and reach out to Pastor Brad with any questions or comments.

Later this week there will be a meeting with Mark, Dean, Stephen, TJ, Robin and Pastor Brad to fine tune the Executive Director role to free up people on staff and Council to be more efficient in ministry.

Executive Director's Report: There has been a change made, through Trustees, to our Facility Use Policy. We will no longer allow outside groups to utilize Timberlake Church facilities. The two main reasons are that TC ministries are growing in size and complexity and the frequency of outside group reservations hinder our ability to schedule church ministry events. Secondly, outside group requests are increasing in number and complexity. We do not have the resources to ensure that the facility is appropriately cleaned before and after these events. Trustees agree that church members will be able to continue to reserve and use the facility for family events only. Our current fees will apply for member use that is non-church ministry related.

There will be a meeting with Robin Grier, our attorney and Mark Coleman in the coming weeks to finalize revised bylaws for Council approval.

CDC incorporation continues. They now have a new Tax ID number and are awaiting VASEC incorporation. We are working on bylaws, other policies, board set up, accounting and insurance. These documents will be presented to Council for approval to ensure that Timberlake Church, Inc. retains oversight/governance/ownership.

Financially, August 2023 continued to demonstrate God's wonderful provision for the ministries and growth of Timberlake Church. See more information in the Finance Report.

506 individuals have transferred their membership from TUMC to TC. Reminders are being given for electronic forms and paper copies are available for those interested.

Bylaws for Timberlake Church will be brought to Council at the October meeting. There will be an email distributed prior to the annual business meeting of Timberlake Church that will include a 2024 summary budget, bylaws and slate of 2024 leaders.

The annual membership meeting will be on October 29, 2023. Only members will be able to vote. The voting process is being finalized now.

CDC Report: The letter of approval to operate as a religious-exempt childcare facility has been received. All background checks on employees will be refreshed for everyone with the new identity of the Timberlake Child Development Center. Fire drills now have alarms that are used to simulate the drill instead of someone using a bullhorn to call for a fire drill. There is one alarm that needs the location to be updated. SPPRC has been working on staff benefit improvements for CDC employees.

Trustees Report: Trustees have received estimates for concrete steps to the upper playground and pavilion. They are waiting for a quote on wood steps, as well. The team decided to wait and see what the facility plan is and then work on the steps. A speed bump was placed at the top of the hill to help catch mulch and keep it from gathering on the slope.

The sanctuary repair from the damage this summer is completed from the exterior of the building. The interior painting should be finished in the next week. The old crosses that were taken down when we disaffiliated will be cleaned up and painted; they will be put back on the exterior of the building.

The safety team bylaws are being written and reviewed in-house and we will have an attorney review them before we implement them. There will be a Code of Ethics for the members of the safety team.

Trees were removed and the fence moved back from the parking lot near Avonlea's Angels. The stumps will be removed in the next few weeks. This should allow better traffic flow on that corner of the campus.

See above in the Executive Director's report for information regarding an update to the Facility Use Permit.

Missions Report: The Mission Team covered the Logan's Lane balance and also purchased the leftover wish list items from the teacher's, from the CDC, Amazon Wish Lists for their classroom. The Mission Team would like to use the Christmas Eve funds to cover the remaining items from teacher wish lists. Council came to consensus to move money to cover the wish lists. The Mission Team has supported the GLOW mission, as they are still working in Ukraine. We sent \$3000 to support their mission. The Mission Team investigated multiple ways to help Maui and found 2 missions that are on the ground. They request to send \$4000, split between the two. Valor Farm has created wish lists for the house Timberlake Church is helping to furnish. The Mission Team would like to cover whatever is not bought from the Christmas Eve offering. Council came to consensus to approve the expenditures.

Finance Report: August giving was \$104,714 with expenses of \$117,608. YTD giving was \$875,458 with YTD expenses at \$739,984. CDC receipts for August were \$102,064 with expenses of \$110,733. YTD receipts were \$819,249 and YTD expenses of \$829,654. Overall, Timberlake Church is being blessed by God through giving. Capital expenses raised the monthly costs in August, electricity use was up. All committees are working on their budget for 2024. The 2024 budget proposal will be ready for Council in

October. Council has been asked to pray about stepping out in faith for 2024 to live our mission to be the hands and feet of Jesus. The Finance Team is continuing to work on consolidating designated accounts and spending the fund raised from 2023 in their appropriate category.

Master Facilities Planning Update: The Facility Team met this month and looked at the 2019-2020 plan. After looking at numerous scenarios, the team decided to look to Council for guidance. What does the membership of Timberlake Church want at a given service? What are the facility needs beyond large meeting room, CDC needs and modern worship space? What is a realistic budget for Timberlake Church? Once there is more direction given, the team will meet again and formulate a plan for next steps.

SPPRC Report: The SPPRC Team is working on the terminology for staff regarding the word "Pastor." They will provide Council with a definition and pray over to see where TC is going with staff. Joe Elmore has started working part time as the Pastor of Visitation. He will work full time beginning October 1, 2023. He has a Masters of Divinity, was a hospice chaplain and work with senior adults. Please welcome him to Timberlake Church!

Salary discussions, job duties and evaluations are ongoing. Pastor Brad is also under review utilizing a 360 performance review in addition to SPPRC review. The pianist open position is moving forward with 2 candidates. We had one organist selected but it did not work out. The application has been reopened.

Chairman's Report: There are 2 more meetings in 2023, please plan on attending both, as there is much work to be done. The October 29 business meeting is coming, please be ready to field questions and attend. Look for people to serve on your committee in 2024.

Worship Report: Nothing to report at this time.

With no further business before Council, Mark Coleman closed in prayer at 8:11pm.