

SERVANT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Vista Ridge UMC

Meeting Minutes February 7, 2022

1. The meeting of the VRUMC Servant Leadership Council (SLC) was convened on Monday, February 7, 2022. With the exception of Dianna King (illness) all members were present. Business Administrator Bill Burden (illness) was also unable to attend.
2. The Chair led a spiritual and leadership development discussion on the topic of the “hybrid” nature of the VRUMC SLC for the immediate future. While space needs to be created to further identify and define the Core Values, capture the Vision, and create the Guiding Principles that will enable the SLC to settle into the model; it is also necessary to continue make decisions with regards to the operation of the church. Barry Sykes led the group in prayer.
3. Pastor’s Report:
 - Continuing to assimilate information about the church
 - Excited about the direction things are headed towards
 - Acknowledges that there is much work to be done
 - When asked what her biggest concerns are at this time:
 - a. The financial situation of the church
 - b. The low numbers of new members, baptisms, etc.
4. Action Items:
 - a. 2022 Budget – Greg Rimling was in attendance to talk the group through the process and derivation of the Proposed 2022 VRUMC Budget. The proposal is on file and is still very much a work in progress. At the time of the meeting the shortfall of Income vs. Expenses totaled approximately \$99,000. There have already been several discussions with Ministry Team leaders about paring down the Expense Requests further. It was decided that the Budget approval will be tabled until all adjustments can be made in the immediate future. In addition, it was agreed that given that the Ministry Team leaders are currently operating without the guidance of an official budget, a spending moratorium (with the exception of absolutely necessary spending) be placed by the Lead Pastor.

Note: The following items that were addressed mostly fall into the category of Capital Expenditures. A brief discussion was held to define what qualifies as such. These are expenditures that fall outside the normal operating budget.

- b. Freeze and Water Protection – Javier Saenz presented the proposal to add a level of freeze and water protection to the building. This system would help alleviate situations where an excessive flow of water is detected. Research had identified the parts needed but the difficulty has been finding a plumber capable to install. A new vendor, with appropriate experience in this kind of system, will be by the property this week with a new estimate. The SLC made a motion, was seconded, and approved, to allow Javier to contract for the service up to the limit of \$4000. If the cost is higher, an electronic notification will be sent for approval.
- c. Media Updating – The problem identified is multifold in nature. Picture angles, sound quality, overtasking of staff, and Wi-Fi quality are the main sources of contention. The Lead Pastor has had conversations with outside sources to gain knowledge about what can be done to alleviate the situation. Proposals are still being developed before any decisions can be made. In addition, new livestream services are being examined for suitability (example: churchonline.com). Rod Bangert was in attendance to offer his insight to the situation. He suggested that we have a discussion with our Internet Service Provider (ISP) concerning our capability, plus reduce wireless activity by switching to hard-wired devices, wherever possible.
- d. Chancel Area Modifications – The problem identified concerns the presentation of the service to the online audience. Several possible suggestions to changing the chancel area with, paint, brick, curtain, and lighting were discussed. More detailed proposals will be discussed at a future meeting.
- e. Work Teams – Bill Burden has identified a couple of Work Teams, including possible volunteers, to take care of the areas of landscaping and building maintenance. Other possible areas will be formulated in the future. One suggestion from the Council concerned the examination of all existing vendor contracts to determine any possible alterations. Given the financial situation of the church, it was felt that savings could be obtained by this tasking. This suggestion will be discussed with the Business Administrator to determine how this might be accomplished.

5. Core Values Discussion – Faith

Here are some of the thoughts expressed:

- A strong belief on God
- It is shared best in community with others
- It manifests itself in action (“Practice Faith”)
- It is a combination of what we do inside the church, but also our hope for impact in the community outside
- These ideals will be encapsulated and brought back to the group at the next meeting.

6. Next Meeting: **Monday, March 7, 2022 at 7:00 PM at the church**

7. Closing Prayer – Hillarye Hightower