



## SERVANT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes April 16, 2024

1. The regular meeting of the VRUMC Servant Leadership Council (SLC) was convened on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 6 p.m., with all members present in person, except for Angie Christoffersen, Berndadette Ealy and Hillarye Hightower. This constitutes a quorum of voting members.
2. James Kunke led the group in a devotional discussing Peter and Paul, with a metaphor aligning their united front on the church's core beliefs to the upcoming General Conference. He opened the meeting with prayer.
3. Discussion Items:
  - a. Church Family Meeting Recap - Sunday, April 7: The council discussed the various comments that were made during the church family meeting. The consensus was that all the voices were heard, and there will continue to be ongoing discussions on suggested music. Actionable items include:
    - i. Printed music (Andy Harrison has already addressed this request)
    - ii. Sound in the cry room (this is a larger project that will continue to be considered to make worship accessible for all)
    - iii. Additional opportunities to add the organ to worship (future discussion)
    - iv. If congregants are not feeling like they are being heard, Pastor Ashley Anne, the VRUMC staff and the SLC chair all have open-door policies.
  - b. A designated outdoor smoking area/bench was moved further from the front door. A low-maintenance cigarette butt receptacle will be added.

- c. Future Discussion Topics:
  - i. Revisit the flag policy, preferably prior to the upcoming holidays of Memorial Day and Independence Day.
  - ii. Make amendments to the Guiding Principles documents for the SLC
  - iii. Reconciling Ministry
  - iv. Men's Retreat/ social group
  
- 4. Pastor's Report:
  - a. Lunch & Launch: 42 sign-ups at the time of the meeting. James is preparing the prayer focus. Questions are being requested ahead of time. More information can be found at <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/churchwide/general-conference-2020>
  - b. Mission Trip for our Youth: 11 youths and 3 adults are currently signed up to go to Austin in June. In need of 1 additional chaperone, preferably male, to help with ministry safe numbers.
  - c. New members/ New guests: Quite a few new visitors in the last few weeks.
  
- 5. Financial Update: Matt Devine, Finance Chair, updated the council on outstanding items from the previous meeting.
  - a. TMF: The 38 identified invoices, totaling \$108,885, related to capital expenditures were presented to and approved by our District Superintendent. With this approval, we will be able to lift the restriction and transfer the funds into our general bank account.
  - b. A motion was made by Wes Potter to reduce the balance on specified designated funds, with the exception of The Salvation Army and Boy Scouts, until we can speak to the past "owners" of these line items (Marilyn Rimling and Jim White, respectively). Dan Sepdham seconded the motion. A unanimous vote was recorded, and the motion was passed.
  - c. A future conversation will need to be had about Trustee expenses regarding budgeting costs as a line item in the approved annual budget versus creating a designated Trustee fund. A decision will be made on how best to account for these types of expenses.
  - d. Additional action items: Matt will create the journal entry related to the vote, to be recorded by the accountant. As the Finance Chair, he will begin tracking designated funds monthly.

6. Staff Parish Relations:

- a. The council held a closed session to discuss SPRC items. No formal votes were recorded.

7. Next SLC Meeting: Tuesday, May 8, 2024, at 6 p.m. on Zoom

- a. June Meeting: Sunday, June 30, 2024, at 11:15 a.m. in person at VRUMC.

8. Susan Francis led the council in a closing prayer. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

SLC Membership:

Karen Meeks, Chair

Ashley Anne Sipe, Lead Pastor

Angie Christoffersen, Lay Member Annual Conf

James Kunke, Lay Leader

Hillarye Hightower, Staff Parish Relations Chair

Matt Devine, Finance Chair

Wesley Potter, Trustee Chair

Tiffany Harlow, Secretary/Minutes

Dan Sepdham

Susan Francis

Bernadette Ealy

Cassandra Williams