

Minutes for Governing Board Meeting May 16th, 6:30 PM New Life Methodist Church

All documents for meeting are placed on: <https://newlifemethodistchurch.org/governing-board/>

Governing Board Members in Attendance:

*Absent members

Church Leaders	Trustees	Finance Committee	Nominating Committee
Milanda Taylor (Lay Leader)	Apryl Emmons (Chair)	Regina Filmore (Chair)	Kathy Giles (Chair)
Joey Croft (Pastor)	Robert Godsey (GB Chair)	Scott Chandler	Sherry Newton
	Robert Godsey (GB Chair)	Keith Hamby (Sec)	Lana Bruno

Others in attendance: Stan Emmons (for Church security discussion only.)

Opening Prayer: Robert Godsey

1. Stan Emmons Church security.

- a. Stan would like the board's advice on which direction to go with security. Stan invited a police officer to tour our buildings and make recommendations.
 - i. Stan would like to set up a security team of 8-10 people who rotate to different locations within the congregation on Sundays. Will need a person with a rifle in the crow's nest.
 - ii. 91% of church shootings are committed by persons who feel they were wrongly counseled by the pastor or a church member.
 - iii. Stan has spoken with Eric Cherry & Robert Patterson about being on the security team.
 - iv. Also discussed a need for a safety plan in the event of fire or tornado.
 - v. Kathy made a motion to give Stan the authority to set up a security/safety team, develop a plan, and start implementation. Scott seconded. Motion passed unopposed.
 - vi. Scott recommended make a prioritized list of steps to take. Start with the highest priority and work our way down the list. Stan will bring a list for the next GB Meeting. Start with the following:
 - 1. Have one point of entry after a specific time. Can exit any door.
 - 2. Window tinting, specifically the daycare door.

2. Review, update & approve meeting minutes from: **2023 04 18-NLMC-Gov-Bd-Minutes**

- a. Apryl made a motion to approve the April minutes. Kathy seconded. Motion passed unopposed.

3. Milanda gave a recap on the Daycare.

- a. All daycare classes are full; 9 spots are part-time.
- b. Expect to operate in the red until August when tuition increases.
- c. New Decisions
 - i. We will not be able to support part-time students after Friday, May 26, 2023.
 - ii. We didn't have enough children or teachers to support a 2023 summer program for current PreK and school age students. Therefore, Friday, May 26th will be the last day we can provide childcare for PreK and school age students.
 - iii. We will not be having after-school care for PreK and school age students for the 2023-24 school year. DAR Elementary is making plans to offer an extended day program in the fall.
 - iv. We will add additional 2's and 3's classes as soon as possible based on facility preparation and hiring of additional teachers.
 - v. We will be raising tuition rates for the 2023-24 school year.
- d. A few families upset, understandably.

4. Committee Updates

- a. Steering Committee
 - i. Lana discussed VBS, which is scheduled for June 23-24. Lana is working on getting volunteers. Robert agreed to help with the flyers; Lana will get them to the school to distribute to the classes. Lana will have a meeting for VBS volunteers starting in June.
 - ii. Kathy gave updates for steering committee:
 - 1. Recommendations by steering committee: Apryl will move to Finance Committee. Keith will move to Trustees. Robert will chair the Trustees. Robert requested that we find someone else to take both the GB chair and the Trustees chair position in 2024. Scott made a motion that we make the changes that Steering Committee recommended. Apryl seconded. Motion passed unopposed.
 - 2. Background checks: The daycare is getting background checks done at Metro Spy in HSV for \$47.20 per person. The background check is FBI rated and very detailed. Must have an appointment. Background check is sent to DHR for the daycare.

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3. We are trying to get congregants to pass the offering plate on Sunday mornings. Larry Walker and Trevor Mitchell are going to be on opposite sides of the pews every Sunday to get the offering plates passed. Robert added a QR code that links to the giving portal to the bulletin. Milanda will mention.
 - b. Finance Committee
 - i. Regina reviewed April's tithing/ offerings.
 1. We have dropped every month in our offerings. In April, we only collected \$7517.22. Our budget is \$10,000 per month. We hit \$10K in Jan, \$10K in Feb, \$9K in March. EasyTithe contributions have remained the same; checks and cash have decreased.
 2. Tim Pierce, guest worship leader, signed his check and put it in the offering plate.
 - ii. Quickbooks update
 1. Quickbooks was updated to the new version. We are not changing to a new accounting SW package.
 2. Church paid for the update. Daycare paid for the payroll upgrade. Probably will be \$650 next year.
 - c. Trustees Committee
 - i. Paint for hallways: On April 1st Apryl went to ACE Hardware and gave Ronnie the color for the hallway. Ronnie stated he put it in the church file. Kelly went to get paint from ACE and said there was nothing on file. Robert will investigate.
 - ii. Hymnals look wonderful. Thank you, Robert.
 - iii. Scout Hut flooring are beautiful. Thank you, Robert.
 - iv. Lighting outside Narthex was upgraded. Thank you, Apryl and Stan.
 - v. Per Kathy, Ricky Watson, District 2 Commissioner, will be removing and disposing of the gaming machines in the storage building.
 - vi. Daycare trustee requests/advice needed, in priority order:
 1. Daycare Door is a security risk. Daycare staff cannot get in when out on playground unless someone opens it for them. Daycare door will be addressed by security team
 2. Bathroom Paper towel dispensers are rusted and won't stay closed; Keith has replacements and will install.
 3. Only 2 lights in each infant room are working. Trustees plan to remove the fixtures and replace with LED fixtures. Stan will pick out the lights and Robert agreed to help install them. The church will half the cost with the daycare.
 4. May the daycare use the little toilets in the infant rooms. Robert is working on repairing them. He stated the larger toilet is working although there are shelves on top of it.
 5. Fellowship Hall and infant room blinds need to be replaced. The church will half the cost with the daycare.
5. Bylaws review next steps
 - a. There were no oppositions to the bylaws as written. Robert waiting to hear back from the attorney.
 - b. We have tentative plans to have the bylaws available on the church website available for members to review on June 11th. We will inform the congregation of their location.
 - c. No Date set for church conference to approve bylaws. Will wait until after June 11th.
 - i. 2/3 of the congregation is required to approve bylaws
 6. Open Discussion and/or Outstanding Business.
 - a. Sacristy refrigerator seal needs to be glued back on. Keith will investigate.
 - b. Apryl asked about smell in the fellowship hall. Wayne will investigate the smell and will get with Wayne's Pest Control if needed.
 - c. Apryl stated we had 2 AC units that were not working: one in the sanctuary and one in the kitchen hallway. Chris Hastings fixed them for ~\$215.

Next GB meeting Tuesday June 20th, 2023 @6:30 PM

Closing Prayer: Robert Godsey