

Minutes
RAMF Congregational Meeting
November 17, 2006 at Carters' home

Present: Bob Carter, Jen Carter, Sue Klassen (notetaker), Victor Klassen, Kathy Kern, Eileen Metzger, Thom Metzger, Walt Nickeson, Chris Passeneau, Kathy Shelly, Mark Shelly, Aaron Stuckey, Rachel Stuckey,

Victor led us in worship throughout the meeting, beginning with a reading for three voices and a hymn.

Treasurer Report: Kathy Shelly presented the RAMF Budget and YTD Expenses 11/15/06 (see attached report).

Building Report: Mark Shelly presented the RAMF Meetingplace Financial Overview 11/17/06 (see attached report). Bob reported on the current status of the building and upcoming tasks (see attached report).

Facilities Budget Reallocation: We expect to have facilities money available at the end of this year (approx. \$13,000-\$18,000). The Building Committee proposed that we use any the excess at the end of our fiscal year (1/31/07) for building related expenses. These would include furnishing the kitchen, including appliances, and other items needed to furnish the church, such as tables, chairs, etc. The Building Committee further proposed that we transfer \$12,000 of this expected excess to the building account for such designated purchases that would occur prior to the end of our fiscal year. Sue Klassen seconded this motion. We accepted the proposal as written.

We will be forming a Furnishings Committee. Kathy Shelly and Jen Carter have expressed a willingness to serve on this committee. Others are invited to consider this opportunity to serve.

Wording for RAMF Sign:

Sue presented the sign plan as proposed to and accepted by the city, which left open the question of wording. She reviewed the picture which was presented in the spring. While we basically accepted the design in the spring, the wording was left for further discussion. She unfurled a model sign showing the Rochester Mennonite Church wording. We decided not to use the word "Area". Regarding the word "Church" vs "Fellowship" – "Church" gives us more clarity, simplicity,

Questions raised: do we need to reduce the size of the sign to make allowances for FLRJC signage? What do we do about the need to change information for summer? Be careful about times: (Sunday School isn't really at 11:00 AM; Worship begins with gathering songs...) Should we add our phone number?

We decided to wait to decide about the final wording of the sign. Most, but not all, people preferred the word "Church" over "Fellowship" for this sign. However, we were still not at peace about whether to add words such as "The Meetinghouse (/place) of." We liked the meaning, but visually it's not as clean.

RAMF Financial Support of NYMC: The delegates of New York Mennonite Conference recommended that we budget 10% of our budget for NYMC. After lengthy discussion weighing the importance of our support to conference against the potentially drastic effect on other Sharing items, we decided that we would give a minimum of 8% of our entire budget to NYMC, to increase up to 10% if the Sharing Items can be held at the same amount or increased from the 2006 fiscal year. We also suggested that the Budget Committee move NYMC from the "Sharing" section of the budget to somewhere else.

RAMF Building Stewards: We affirmed the following people as Building Stewards: Victor Klassen, Nancy Price, Mark Shelly, Rachel Stuckey. These people will hold these positions until June 2007. They will decide among themselves which two people will stay on for continuity for the next term.

Leadership Team and Worship Committee Report: See attached reports.

Building Update – 17 November 2006

Status:

1. Mechanicals
 - Heat is operational – all HVAC trim is in
 - Water is connected
 - Electricians have begun the finish electrical work
2. Exterior
 - A new siding contractor has been hired to complete trim and any of the siding that doesn't get done by volunteers
 - We have most of the door hardware for the exterior doors that needs to be installed
3. Interior
 - Walls/ceilings are about 2/3 done
 - Interior doors and windows are ordered
 - Floor is in for kitchen and bathrooms. Floors being prepped in other rooms that are getting VCT or carpet
4. Site
 - Drive/parking lot were boxed out last month and most of the stone base has been brought in. Paving will wait until spring, giving base a winter to settle.
 - Drainage system is about 2/3 complete
 - It is critical to get sidewalk from parking lot down to the street in before winter sets in.
 - Need to lay rough-in for parking lot lighting this weekend
 - Front yard is ready for finish grading

A list of tasks that volunteers are responsible for is shown below. This represents a tremendous amount of work. It looks like the wall/ceiling painting will take us five weeks. Many of the tasks below are of a similar magnitude of labor and many are considerably more complicated. In order to obtain a certificate of occupancy (C of O) and start using the building, all of these need to be completed. We can get C of O w/o our driveway/parking lot being paved, but it would be essential to get the sidewalks in to provide a safe walkway along the building and to the parking lot. The timing is estimated assuming minimal work being done during the week. We should plan to organize a couple working blitz days for specific projects were we invite sister churches from the conference to come help us push through this final phase. If left to us alone, it could drag out for several more months.

| Task | approximate amount of time |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| complete painting of walls/ceilings | 1.5 weeks |
| vacuum & sand window frames/sashes, mask glass, clean with tack cloth | 1 week |
| seal window frames/sashes | 2 weeks |
| install ext. door hardware | 2 days |
| Sand and finish interior doors | 1 week |
| install interior door hardware | 2 days |
| mill maple for sanct. Trim and base elsewhere | 2 weeks |
| Install tile floor in foyer | 2 weeks |
| prefinish maple for trim | 2 weeks |
| subfloor for sanct | 1 week |
| hardwood for sanct. | 2 weeks |
| Frame for ceiling of portico | 1 week |
| mill spruce for porch ceilings (at Carter's) | 1 week |
| finish spruce for porch ceilings | 1 week |
| ceiling for portico | 1 week |
| ceiling for front porch | 1 week |

Site work

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Grade and tamp area for sidewalk | 1 week |
| Form sidewalks | 1 week |
| pour sidewalks | 1 week |
| finish grade front of bldg | 2 weeks |
| finish grade rest of site | ? |

Leadership Team Report

November 17, 2006

Leadership team – Aaron, Walt, Eileen, Kathy S

- In addition to planning the agenda of this congregational meeting, we have continued to oversee the church calendar, including setting the adult hour schedule. As always, we value suggestions from all of RAMF of potential adult hour topics or studies.
 - Eileen will be attending a course “Mediation training for church leaders” the end of November.
 - We recently met as a Leadership team for a 5 hour “retreat”, where we shared with each other some of our individual strengths and weaknesses, looked at components of a LT covenant, and did some long range brainstorming of RAMF’s structure.
 - We affirmed Thom and Eileen as premarital counselors for Roy Tobin and his fiancée, Yvonne, who have also requested to be married in our church building in June 2007.
- * Please mark your calendars for the next congregational meeting – January 19, 2007 where we will approve the budget, among other agenda items to be determined.

Worship Committee Report

By Jen Carter

The Worship Committee is currently inviting leaders for Advent, Christmas, and early next year worship services. After the Advent and Christmas seasons (mid-January) and until Lent (end-ish of February) we are planning to have more free form services either following the Lectionary or a topic of the leaders’ choice. Because autumn worship services had a strong sense of theme (Becoming Bread series, World Communion Sunday, etc.) we are now actively approaching leaders who do well with more loose or no materials, but if this appeals to you and we haven’t asked please talk to the Worship Committee (Jen or Amy).

A group of folks are planning for a service to dedicate the new building to God and His kingdom. If you have any ideas regarding this but are not interested in planning with the group for the whole service, please pass ideas on to Jen.

We continue to be thankful for willing and capable leaders for our Sunday services and look forward to worshiping at some services led by new people who have expressed interest in leading this coming year. As usual we pray for each leader every week to be used by the Holy Spirit, and that each leader receive their own blessings as they plan.