



RUMTX BOARD MEETING: Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 10:30am Via Zoom

Attendees:

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| X | Rev. Bodie | Gilbert |
| X | Burke | Randolph |
| | Cameron | Cody |
| X | Rev. Diane | McGehee - Chair |
| | Ellen | Millard |
| | Erin | Kupcunas Faseler |
| X | Rev. Glynden | Bode |
| | Jennifer | West |

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| X | Rev. Jim | Bankston |
| | Judy | Graves |
| | Justin | Flint |
| | Kent | Ping |
| X | Kim | McCumber |
| | Deac. Laura | Young |
| | Marilyn | Meeker-Williams |
| | Rev. Nathan | Lonsdale Bledsoe |

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| | Nelda | Brooks |
| X | Norma | Graves |
| | Rev. Rahel | Yoo |
| X | Randy | Scott - Treasurer |
| X | Tara | Hunsucker |
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Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 110:35 a.m., by Diane.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: Norma moved to approve 10/15/20 minutes; Bodie seconded; passed.

Financial Report: Randy was unable to donate the \$1,000 online, for Rooted and Rising Wellspring, as a one-time donation. Randy will write a check for the \$1,000 as approved last meeting. Burke moved that for the next 4 quarters, RUMTX give \$250 online to RMN Rooted and Rising Wellspring; Kim seconded; passed.

Old Business:

1. Nov. 8th Community Gathering Zoom, 7pm: Hope and Healing
 - a. Diane to ask Central UMC Galveston to provide readers for the liturgy, record, and send to Bodie by Friday, 10/30.
 - b. Diane to ask Danny, Cassie and Choir Director from Bellaire UMC to record scripture readings. Recordings to Bodie by Friday, 10/30/30.
 - c. Bodie will splice music he is recording and liturgy/scripture recordings together and provide to Jennifer/Tara by Friday, 11/6/20. Should end up with 2 clips to share in meeting: for the beginning and at the end.
 - d. After music, scriptures, and liturgy (see order of worship sent by Diane and Bodie), Diane will provide a live message, and live communion will follow. Service will close with music recorded by Bodie.
 - e. Communion will be staged at Bering and Bob Manchester, piano player, will be there if we need additional musical intervals – note: only one microphone can be heard in zoom meeting unless you are talking over a clip...I think.
 - f. Order of Worship will be prepared by Diane and it will be sent with the zoom link email.
 - g. Registration Invite: Glynden is working on the invite and may add something about being able to honor/lift up those that need hope and healing during the service by mentioning them in the chat.
 - h. Bering will hook into zoom connection for the live message/communion.
 - i. Shared that the transitions in a zoom meeting, rather than a webinar, may be a little slower.



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2. Update Letter to Bishop: 10/21 list of signatures was sent out by Tara. Note: it has a reduced number of signatures due to removal of duplicates.
 - a. Please proof and send corrections to davids@beringumc.org. For people you know signed but are not showing up, please ask them to sign again.
 - b. It was also suggested that Diane approach supporting clergy (Danny/Westbury, Central Galv, Open Hearts leaders) to share the letter with a lead lay person so it can get more traction.
 - c. Glynden will provide a list for Diane to review clergy that are supporters.
 - d. Suggested that we send a thank you email to those that have signed so we don't get as many duplicates. Diane to ask David to see if possible.
3. Update from Webpage team (Judy, Glynden, Laura, Burke, Tara, Jennifer): Tara reported that Jennifer said Emma, who volunteered to assist with the webpage, is on vacation and will be back this weekend. The three of them will meet to start work but timing will be very dependent on Emma's availability.
4. Update on letting board know names will be posted on website: Tara will contact Judy to see if board members are aware that we will be listing the board on the updated website.
5. Update on District Delegate deadlines:
 - a. Tara sent out her list of contacted Districts and if they have a deadline. Have not heard back from East, Northwest, and Southeast. Randy reported that Central South sent an email out saying they had no process/timeline in place yet. Judy reported that she also received an email for Southwest District stating that they were canceling the nomination voting previously scheduled for 10/25 to re-look at the process to ensure all churches are represented.
 - b. Burke suggested that we may want to approach Bishop and ask q's like: It's been reported you're intending to move the TX Conf. to the new Wesley Covenant Denomination is it true?; Why sell the centralized blg when critical to inner city/Methodist Hosp./City Council? Why move headquarters north when Woodlands is supporting the new denomination and not UMC? What's really behind this? Concerned about what is overall process for District Delegate selection. Cautioned to be careful on how we ask – when ready get reviewed by Justin.
 - c. Send all received emails on Delegate process to Diane and she will ask Kip what is the process is for each district. Glynden will send out an email just for District Delegate recruitment which will include the District names and phone numbers.

New Business:

1. From Open Items: Develop a questionnaire to get feedback from each Zoom/Webinar meeting via a google survey or monkey survey. Suggested that after the Nov. 8th zoom, send out a "As we close out the year" email with a survey requesting feedback. Tara to work on survey.

Adjourn: Jim prayed. Meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m.

Next Board Meeting Date: Nov. 5th at 10:30 a.m.



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Open Items:

1. Formalizing official letter in collaboration with other interest groups to object to the selling of the Conference property in downtown Houston (not from RUMTX specifically but a broader group)
2. Develop a plan for transparency as to what is happening in the New Wesley Covenant Denomination, what their marketing strategies may be, and how to counter them; what our churches will be facing; and lobbying for staying with the UMC.
3. Need to start contacting District Offices very soon to request to be a 2021 Delegate. TAC vote on property sale will be in 2021, and moving TAC to new denomination will likely be 2022.
4. Need to research if a whole conference can move under the current Book of Discipline (BOD) rules like a church can if they move to another denomination. And research what happens to pensions as a large group of clergy in TX Conf would not want to move.