

MINUTES
HARMONY BUILDING COMMITTEE
March 2, 2014

The committee had a light lunch at the church after worship services.

Chairman Tom Gatewood reviewed Base Camp, a computer program that will enable committee members to communicate more easily than via regular e-mail what they have done/are doing. The program will include tasks for subcommittees, calendar, progress/timeline, files, and discussion area (like postings on a bulletin board).

Facilities Subcommittee report:

- 1) Dave Nash and Craig Balzer have communicated, but Balzer's proposal is not in yet.
- 2) It is key that we get finance information first before proceeding.
- 3) Dave recommended that things be done in the following order:
 - *Pre-design (or pre-planning)
 - *Design
 - *Construction
- 4) We need to find out what the congregation can support.
- 5) We need to formulate our timeline for the funding.
- 6) We need to take estimates to the congregation.

Zoning/Governmental Subcommittee tasks include:

- 1) Have a complete professional survey done in order to submit a boundary line adjustment application to the Town of Hamilton.
- 2) Request a VDOT traffic study.
- 3) Talk with neighbors about Harmony's future building plans. (*This is critical!*)
- 4) Complete a Generalized Development Plan for the Town of Hamilton (minimum cost \$2,500).
- 5) Complete and submit a rezoning application to the Town of Hamilton for the church property to be rezoned into the PSP District (for churches).

The Finance Subcommittee will put initial cost findings on Base Camp.

Other points of discussion:

- 1) The question was raised as to how much money do we ask the congregation for.
- 2) We need to get rid of the church's current debt first.
- 3) Steve Vineyard proposed a challenge to pay off the debt by Easter by raising \$14,00 toward the Matching Fund.
- 4) We need to communicate to the congregation accurate and current information.
 - *We need to tell the people via all means possible (web site, e-mail, from the pulpit) what is going on and also what is not going on.
 - *We need to tell them that this committee will not spend what the congregation cannot afford.
 - *It was noted that there has been no communication to the congregation since the architects were here and the pictures of the architects' initial ideas were put up; as a result there have been numerous rumors and false conclusions.
 - *It was suggested that the church send the congregation a FAQ sheet.
- 5) The question was raised that if we asked the congregation for, say, \$100,000 (a hypothetical figure) for initial costs, do you think we could get it within a year? The answer was yes, probably; but we should ask for more than we think we need (i.e., \$115,000 instead of \$100,000).
- 6) It was noted that no action has been taken to ascertain the boundary line of the black cemetery.

Next meeting date is Sunday, March 30, after church. A light lunch will be provided. Subcommittees were directed to meet/communicate between now and next meeting.

Mary Preston
Secretary