

to a judicial decision, and (3) seek immediate mediation of the claim. Mr. Roman suggested that in his professional opinion, Session should consider the immediate mediation option. Session engaged in a lengthy discussion as to whether to continue to pursue recovery under the claim. Upon a motion made and seconded, Session voted to authorize Church's legal counsel to pursue the mediation option.

WECEP Update

Reverend Rogers announced that WECEP's Board of Directors has prepared procedures and a protocol to support reopening its early childhood and education programs on June 29, 2020. Reverend Rogers introduced John DiSimone, Chair of the WECEP Board of Directors to review written procedures and a protocol for reopening the Child Care Center, copies of which had been distributed to Session members prior to the meeting. The protocol and procedures were developed in adherence with published Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines, and cover drop-off and pick-up procedures, meals, snacks and drinks, staff and child hygiene and cleaning of the facility. Prior to Mr. DeSimone's review, Reverend Rogers had presented a motion to approve reopening the Child Care Center in accordance with the protocol and procedures on June 29, 2020. A second to the motion was received and Mr. Di Simone's review and an extensive discussion ensued after which Session voted unanimously to approve reopening the Child Development Center on June 29, 2020, utilizing the procedures and protocol developed by the WECEP Board of Directors for that purpose.

Reverend Rogers reported that the incoming chair of the WECEP Board has been invited to attend Session's August regular meeting to report on WECEP programming and operation down the road. Elder Galbreath noted that when the Child Development Center reopens, charges for custodial staff and rent will resume.

Reopening: Vision Task Force Report

The Task Force met on June 9, 2020, and produced a plan for reopening under the Green Phase of the Governor's recently announced plan for state-wide reopening during the current pandemic. Written copies of the Task Force's notes on a plan, a copy of which is attached to these minutes, were distributed to Session members prior to the meeting. Dr. Lancaster reviewed the plan and sought and received Session's input on its content. Session agreed, at the Moderator's suggestion, to meet again on June 24, 2020, to review and act on a final Task Force plan to reopen church offices and resume in-person worship services.

Endowment and Special Gifts – Elder Rex presented a proposal for use of \$93,500 available for distribution in 2020 from the Endowment for new ministries, mission, and restricted or non-recurring capital expenditures that has been approved by the Endowment & Special Gifts Committee, as follows:

- \$17,000 for refinishing of the floor in the WROC.

- \$4,100 to upgrade WCEP's security system.
- \$21,774 to replace worn carpet with vinyl floors in rooms 107 and 194.
- \$20,750 to replace Schenley Heights Community Development Program van.
- \$29,876 to replace Sangli Industrial School (India) equipment.

Upon Session's consideration and discussion of the foregoing proposal, a motion was made and seconded to approve funding to these programs.

COMMISSION & COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTIONS

Finance. Elder Lee reviewed a Summary Analysis of Revenues and Expenses for April 2020 which had been circulated to members of Session prior to the meeting. Current cash position remains favorable despite a drop off in giving in May. The Commission is likewise concerned over the need to avoid drop offs in giving which occur historically during the summer months. Disbursements under the PPP loan should be easily completed under the recently extended deadline for completing such disbursements thus ensuring that the loan will be fully forgiven. Donald Baumann has been invited to address Session this fall to present an update on plans for the upcoming the financial audit.

Personnel. Elder McClintock-Comeaux confirmed to Session that Cindy Bingham resigned her position as Business Administrator effective June 30, 2020. Her exit interview is scheduled for later this week. Tomorrow Elder McClintock-Comeaux and Dr. Lancaster will interview a person capable of handling the full range of Business Administrator responsibilities as a temporary hire while the Commission conducts a review of the church's evolving staffing requirements.

PASTORS' REPORTS

Reverend Freyer announced that he has accepted a call as senior pastor to the Laboratory Presbyterian Church located just south of Washington, PA, starting on August 9, 2020. His last day on the Westminster staff will be July 26.

Rev. Rogers reported that twelve babies will be baptized in private ceremonies over the next several weeks. She also expressed appreciation for all those who collected food and assembled lunches to be distributed to Pittsburgh School District children during this pandemic period and the deacons who distributed dinners in an outreach project in Brookline.

Dr. Lancaster reported that he will be on vacation during the month of July.

CONCERNS AND JOYS

Rev. Rogers expressed her appreciation for all those who participated in the recent prayer vigil and asked for prayers for the families of several members now in hospice care.

ADJOURNMENT WITH PRAYER

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with prayer at 8:15 p.m. The next regular meeting of Session will be held on June 24, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

H. Brian Peck
Clerk of Session

Date approved: August 17, 2020