



Admin Board Meeting Minutes

February 05, 2023

North Campus Choir Room

- I. A special meeting was called after church by the Admin Chair to discuss and vote on an updated version of Motion 1 as discussed in January 30.2023 minutes. Robert Mooney, Trustee Chair, sent a request from the Board of Trustees to amend Motion 1 by modifying as follows:
 - Change the word “explore” to “engage”.
 - Add – obtain the right to vote on disaffiliation by other means.

Motion 1 from 1-30-2023 Admin Meeting

We authorize the Board of Trustees to **explore** what is necessary to pursue a vote under paragraph 2553 of the United Methodist Book of Discipline including the hiring of lawyers and litigation.

- II. Below is a summary from Robert Mooney (Board of Trustees – Chairman) who attend a Zoom call conducted by The National Center for Life and Liberty. Purpose of call was to outline the process of filling what they called “Joint Plaintiff Action” on behalf of North Georgia Conference.

I had an opportunity to hear a presentation from David Gibbs III, their president and general counsel. They are a non-profit legal ministry serving churches like ours. You can read about them at ncll.org. There are already dozens of churches onboard and dozens more who, like us, are giving it serious consideration. They have a two-fold strategy. Their goal is to meet with the conference chancellor (the attorney for our annual conference) and negotiate a path forward out of the pause. If this fails, they also have a litigation strategy. They are already representing Methodist churches in the Florida Conference, the Western North Carolina Conference, and others across the country. They are a member-based organization. If you are a member, you are eligible to be included in the joint plaintiff case. If there is an out of court settlement, the annual fee is the only cost. If it goes to litigation, there is a cap on litigation expenses for each church. The membership cost is \$1000.00 per year and the cap on litigation is \$2500.00. If it is settled in 2023, the maximum cost to Due West is \$3500.00. If it goes into 2024, there will be another \$1000.00 annual membership fee.

This money has already been committed by individuals above and beyond their regular giving. For those involved, the NCLL will work to secure the opportunity to vote on disaffiliation. If successful, their services extend to the legal requirements for leaving the UMC, such as deed transfers, changes in the articles of incorporation, etc. (all included in the \$3,500 cap) The caveat is timing. They are ready to proceed and are in the process of finalizing the churches who desire to be included. They are asking that churches join the NCLL by February 10th. To make that happen, the Administrative Council will need to revisit the vote from last Monday and change it back to “engage” from “explore”. A vote on the future of Due West and any possible disaffiliation would still rest with our church members. This action will hopefully accomplish the goal of regaining the opportunity to take that vote. While I understand this will feel rushed, I do believe it is the best and most economically viable option that will be available to us.

III. The vote was taken and approved by majority vote to modify Motion 1 from January 30, 2023 as follows:

We authorize the Board of Trustees to engage what is necessary to pursue a vote under paragraph 2553 of the United Methodist Book of Discipline or obtain the right to vote on disaffiliation from the United Methodist Church by other means including the hiring of lawyers and litigation.

IV. List of Attendees

Sam Gindlesberger*	Darren Frost
Allison Sligh	Larry Sago
Barry Taylor	Gordon Via
Bill Coffeen	Ron Moore
Eddie Fletcher	Fritz Hutchinson Jr.
Bob Mitchell	Jane Swanson
Lew Amick	Ron Hoover
David Campbell*	Ross Olhausen
Christine Salazar*	Tammy Teague
Kerri Casteel	Matthew Boullian*
Butch Gaudette	
Sarah Baumhoff	
Marianna Drinkard	

- We had several members of the congregation present during the meeting

* Indicates ex officio members of the board

Approval for February 5, 2023 Minutes

13 of 23 votes who were in attendance

Name	Email	Approve
Jane Swanson	jane.swan@gmail.com	Yes
Terri Kilpatrick	TerriKilpatrick@comcast.net	Yes
Eddie Fletcher	eddie4fletch@gmail.com	Yes
	kanga2msd@gmail.com	Yes
Larry Sago	larry.sago@gmail.com	Yes
Bill Coffeen	billcoffeen@gmail.com	Yes
Tammy Teague	tammy@tammynteague.com	Yes
Ross Olhausen	rossolhausen@yahoo.com	Yes
Gordon Via	hgviajr@gmail.com	Yes
Bob Mitchell	mitchellbob7631@gmail.com	Yes
Tracie Cantrell	tdcantrell@bellsouth.net	Yes
Kerri Casteel	KerriCasteel64@gmail.com	Yes
Sam Gindlesberger	samg@duewest.org	Yes

* Total vote tally as of 2-14-2023