

Minutes are unapproved until the next Congregation Meeting

**CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
CONGREGATION MEETING
SEPTEMBER 13, 2009**

Moderator Kevin Jonell called the meeting to order at 10:50 a.m.

Senior Pastor Brian Henderson led the opening prayer.

The minutes from the Annual Meeting of January 28, 2009 were approved by consent.

Kevin stated that the purpose of the meeting was to vote on the approval of the renovation project, interim borrowing of up to \$850,000, and encumbrance of the church property.

Kevin thanked the Aesthetic Committee, and said that 185 Calvary members attended informational presentations on the renovation.

Kevin gave a summary of the process for the meeting: the church by-laws require a quorum of at least 100 members be present to vote; a two-thirds affirmative vote is required for the motion to pass; a brief recap of events leading up to the decision to pursue the renovation would be presented by Walter Rowell and Diane Newcom from the Aesthetic Committee, and Bruce Whitaker, Church Administrator; a discussion/question and answer period would follow the motion, and then voting would proceed by ballot.

Walter Rowell summarized that renovation had started to become a goal in 1992, and further reinforced by the Appreciative Inquiry process during 2005. Walter explained the steps thus far since March 2009, and that the capital payments would be over a two-year term, payable in full by the end of 2011. The project is expected to take 10 weeks.

Diane Newcom explained the process of the Aesthetic Committee, and that the primary goal of the renovation is to make the most visible areas of the church more welcoming and inviting. The scope of the work is not intended to include repairs, replacement of carpet in undesignated areas, or necessary on-going parking lot maintenance.

Bruce Whitaker gave a financial overview: three bids will be obtained; there will be a two-year loan; borrowing depends on any upfront contributions that might be made; the church has excellent credit; and there will be no problem securing a loan.

Kevin explained what "calling the question" means, and asked that in order for everyone who wishes will have an opportunity to ask a question or make a comment, that the question not be called, and Kevin would be sensitive to time and keep things moving along.

Steve Hulst as Associate Director of Resource Management made the following motion:

Upon recommendation of the Council of Ministries, I move the approval of the renovation project, securing interim financing of up to \$850,000, and the related encumbering of our church property.

As the motion was made by Council, no second was required. Questions were asked with the following responses from pastoral/lay leadership:

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- Although church programming is extensive, more can most probably be anticipated;
- Costs for the project do include building code allowances;
- No more than what is pledged to the capital campaign will be borrowed;
- The stewardship campaign and the capital campaign will run simultaneously;
- During the darkest days of the current economic crises, October/November 2008, Calvary's pledges were the highest ever;
- There will be an owner representative for the construction;
- The capital campaign will not be augmented with fund raisers;
- The facility will be operational on Sunday's during the construction, but mid-week events could be impacted;
- Additional value added to the building from the renovation will not be determinable unless and until the property would be sold;
- There is a very small contingency built into the budget.

Additional comments from the congregation included:

- A debt-free church will ultimately plateau and eventually die;
- The timing will present some hardship/difficult decisions for those involved in other areas of benevolent giving;
- Physical surroundings are not the central issue to worship;
- The renovation is the "right thing to do."

Andy Gibbs made the motion to call the question. Jim Comstock seconded. A standing vote to call the question was taken. The motion passed.

Ballots were distributed. The chief teller was Phil Doty; additional tellers were Chuck Newcom, Jim Dykes, Bruce Whitaker, and Carolyn Weese. The motion passed by greater than a two-thirds majority.

Brian Henderson led the closing prayer.

The motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Moderator Kevin Jonell adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

Respectively Submitted,
Carolyn Weese
Church Secretary