

# **MINUTES OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION FOR DAYTON: MEMORIAL CHURCH**

**Meeting of February 7, 2022**

The Presbytery of the Miami Valley's Administrative Commission for Memorial Presbyterian Church of Dayton (AC) met via Zoom meeting on February 7, 2022. Members in attendance are MWS Amy Duiker, chair; RE Cindi Cook; RE Gordon Neumann, clerk; RE Charles Chamberlain; MWS Ed McNulty. Meeting commenced at 7:06pm with prayer by Amy Duiker

**It is noted that the AC Committee accepted electronic approval of the minutes dated September 29, 2020 and October 5, 2020.**

**It is noted that the AC Committee acting as session of Memorial Presbyterian Church (MPC) electronically voted to transfer the membership of David and Susan Prickett to Kirkmont Presbyterian Church end of October 2021.**

**It is noted that the AC Committee accepted the Final Statistics of Memorial Presbyterian Church with a count of 72 members that were transferred to Presbytery on November 6, 2020. Three members transferred to other local churches, 3 were moved to the inactive list due to living out of state and a decrement of 2 to make it match the previous year total.** The clerk did not have a physical list of members to go by thus from reviewing the church register and cross checking with the mailing lists came up with a difference of 2 from the previous year. It was reviewed by the previous clerk of MPC for accuracy.

**It is also noted that the AC Committee voted by email on May 24, 2021 to transfer 3 other members to Sugar Creek Presbyterian Church.** Therefore, the total number transferred to Presbytery has been amended to 69 on May 25, 2021.

Apparently, some tax forms were not submitted when expected to the state of Ohio and IRS. Please note that the withholding was paid on time. The forms were submitted in October of 2020 by the Presbytery's treasurer.

Larry Hollar asked the clerk of the AC Committee to review the final set of minutes for MPC as it was found the previous clerk did not sign the set of minutes. The minutes and records were approved with exceptions November 11, 2020. It was found during the review:

- the 2019 congregational minutes were not found
- the July 29, 2019 special meeting were not found
- The 2019 budget was also missing
- Neglected to add a baptism to the church register.

After the fact I was able to locate the 2019 budget.

Upon a conversation with the previous clerk, he recalled the minutes of the congregational meeting but was unable to locate a digital or hard copy. However, he was able to locate

the minutes of July 29, 2019. I added the budget and minutes of the meeting to the minutes book.

The church's records have been boxed up and made its way to Presbyterian Historical Society in Philadelphia PA around July 2021

Contact was made to the relatives of the Schilling family who sponsored the commissioning of a painting that hangs in the narthex. With the church being sold, the relatives did indeed pick up the painting in early November 2021

As you may recall there were several outstanding loans attached to MPC. The Comment on PILP accepting our documentation that the #78 and #99 grants/loans were paid in full circa January 1988. PILP confirms given our documentation. There was a third loan of \$2400 with an original date of October 10, 1945. Inquiring on additional details from PILP they have an index card that says: "land sale. Site fund." We also heard this via email from James G. Rissler President & Chief Executive Officer February 22, 2021:

In researching this grant I have found this differs from the previous grants in a few ways. It appears this was for the land and not to construct a building, four years prior to requesting funds to construct a building. As such, this grant was most likely issued to the Presbytery (for the benefit of what became Memorial PC) rather than to the church. This would explain why the grant did not show up on Memorial's internally prepared financial statements. However, the grant is linked to the building for all grantees.

Nothing else was found regarding payoff and we recommend that Presbytery pay the \$2400 to satisfy the loan.

Meeting adjourned at 7:28pm

Gordon Neumann, Clerk

## **FINAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION FOR DAYTON: MEMORIAL CHURCH**

**February, 2022**

The Presbytery of the Miami Valley's Administrative Commission has completed the tasks to close Memorial Presbyterian Church.

The Administrative Commission (AC) for Dayton Memorial had the task of closing down the church while maintaining that it stays open as it is the offices for the Presbytery of the Miami Valley. With the COVID pandemic, opportunities of finding usage of the building in a spiritual sense is taking longer than might normally occur. It is suggested that the AC not vote to dissolve and finish tasks except for dissolving the church, thus allowing presbytery more time to find spiritual usage of the building and grounds. Therefore, the AC will not use the authorization that presbytery gave us to dissolve and return that

authority to the Presbytery of the Miami Valley. The task of filing the necessary public notices is also returned to presbytery.

The history of the church was quite old as it started back in the mid 1800's after the civil war. Many of its historical documents that were found were from the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The oldest set of session minutes and other church groups minutes have been shipped to Presbyterian Historical Society with a couple more boxes marked to be shipped in due course. Included in the records, were details regarding a painting that was given to the congregation by the Schilling family back in 1976. With some assistance we were able to reach out to surviving family members who took ownership of the painting in November of 2021.

Letters were sent out to current members encouraging them to seek other nearby churches. 2020 giving statements were also sent out to those of record.

It was reported by PILP that some loans/grants were still outstanding. Digging through an incredible set of financial records and many annual meeting minutes it was found those loans/grants were actually paid in 1988. There is one PILP loan: 84001003 in 1945 for \$2,400 where we could not find any reference to the existence of this loan in the churches financial or session records. This information was forwarded to us from PCUSA when we inquired about it:

In researching this grant I have found this differs from the previous grants in a few ways. It appears this was for the land and not to construct a building, four years prior to requesting funds to construct a building. As such, this grant was most likely issued to the Presbytery (for the benefit of what became Memorial PC) rather than to the church. This would explain why the grant did not show up on Memorial's internally prepared financial statements. However, the grant is linked to the building for all grantees.

It is our recommendation that Presbytery pay the \$2400 to satisfy the loan. We worked with the presbytery's treasurer to make sure all tax forms were filed and arranged with presbytery to pick up ongoing payments of utilities and insurance for the building.

Session minutes and the last congregational meeting minutes were printed off and placed in the latest Session Minutes book as well as the final statistical numbers. The last year session minutes were reviewed and approved with exceptions. We were notified of some recent transfers (May 2021) to Sugar Creek, which changes the numbers being transferred to Presbytery stated clerk to 69 names.

Presbytery sponsored Dayton Memorial building to be an ecumenical host site for volunteers helping with tornado recovery. The Brethren Disaster Ministry as well as other members of congregations throughout the presbytery helped to make the host site ready.

The property title is in the hands of presbytery to transfer the title to the Presbytery of the Miami Valley. It is expected that presbytery will end the corporation status with Ohio

Secretary of State. Presbytery has decided to relocate to a new facility and will be selling the Memorial PC building at auction in February 2022.

Gordon Neumann, Clerk

Teaching Elder Amy Duiker, chair  
Ruling Elder Gordon Neumann, clerk  
Ruling Elder Charles Chamberlain  
Ruling Elder Cindi Cook  
Teaching Elder Ed McNulty