

ACRE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
April 20, 2016

Board members present: Gary James, Darrell White, Francis Bradley, Jim Nichols, Tim Cook, Donald Lewis, Mike Lee, Richard McBryde, Bob McCulley, Doug Sanders, Donne Walden, Dan Melancon, Bobby Collins, Clyde Keenan, John Johnson

Call to Order: A quorum was present and the meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by President Mike Lee.

Opening Prayer: The opening prayer was given by Jim Nichols.

Approval of the minutes: Secretary John Johnson presented a copy of the previous minutes of the board of directors meeting and the membership meeting for the month of February for review and approval.

Motion by Jim Nichols to approve the minutes of the previous board meeting, seconded by Tim Cook.

Discussion: There was no board or general membership meeting in March due to the SCS Administration advising ACRE that the auditorium would be in use.

Board Action: The motion passed without objection.

Discussion Item: Information from the Shelby County School administration

Prior to today's ACRE board meeting, Mike Lee, Gary James, and John Johnson met with a member of the school administration regarding the use of the building. Prior to ACRE's next meeting we must present documentation that ACRE is a not-for-profit organization and secure a \$1 million bond to protect the SCS system from injuries or damage by members of ACRE. All other organizations are already providing this for the SCS administration. Tim Cook will contact an insurance agency to see what the cost is for \$1 million bond that will cover ACRE for the 12 days per year.

Discussion Item: Alternative Meeting Places

The board had an extended discussion on possible alternative meeting places in the event ACRE has to leave the SCS auditorium. **McWhirter Community Center**, which has ample parking, large meeting room, separate meeting room for the board meeting. No cost to ACRE. No bond requirement. ACRE members can stay for lunch for \$5. The downside is that since the community center serves lunch, ACRE would have to complete its business between 11 and 11:30 am. **Ridgeway Community Center**, which has large meeting rooms, ample parking, no cost to ACRE, no bond. This is same location that the City Health Fair has their meeting. **Other locations included:** **AFSCME** building location downtown, the **Old Fire & Police Gym**, the **Unity Lodge** on Colonial south of Poplar, and the **Memphis Public Library** on Poplar.

It should be noted that after much debate and discussion regarding an alternative meeting place, a majority of the board members felt that if we need to make every effort to stay at the SCS Admin building since it is centrally located, plenty of parking and is where the members are used to coming to. The following action was taken:

A Motion by Dan Melancon, seconded by Jim Nichols, to have the building search committee meet with the Shelby County School administration and ask for a guarantee that ACRE can use either the old cafeteria or the auditorium for the next 12 months, and if so, authorize the treasurer to pay for the cost of the \$1 million bond.

Discussion: In December, 2015 President Mike Lee appointed members of the search committee: Tim Cook, Richard McBryde, and Gary James. Dan Melancon was added to this search committee.

Board Action: The motion was approved.

Treasurers Report: Jim Nichols presented a combined March & April treasurer's report for review and approval.

Motion by John Johnson to approve the treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Tim Cook.

Discussion: A copy of the treasurer's report is on file and is available for review.

Board Action: The motion passed without objection.

The board discussed the charities that ACRE supports. One is the FOP golf tournament and the other is the Fire Fighters Burn Foundation. Treasurer Jim Nichols said that in his budget for 2016 he included money to support both of these charities.

Motion by Jim Nichols, seconded by Richard McBryde to donate \$400 to the FOP golf tournament and \$400 to the Fire Fighters Burn Foundation.

Discussion: There was some discussion among the board members as to who could play golf.

Board Action: Motion was approved.

Public Relations and IT/Webmaster Report. Tim Cook distributed a copy of his report for review and discussion. A copy of his report will be made a part of the minutes of this board meeting.

Highlights: The webpage contains minutes as far back as 2013. We now have 1,135 email addresses, and the dues expiration date can be added to the address label for the newsletter.

Legal Advisor Report. Clyde Keenan

Clyde advises that members should be alert regarding scammers claiming to be from the IRS and needing additional information. This may come as emails, or phone calls. The IRS does not do business this way.

Pension Board report. Dan Melancon. The latest figures from the City Pension Board shows as of March 31 the pension is 78.6% funded with a balance of \$1,987,927,281 billion. The fund went from green to yellow due the decline in the stock market for the last 3 months.

Insurance Committee Report: Francis Bradley.

- The next city council healthcare oversight meeting is April 25, 3 to 5 pm at city hall.
- Members should to read the enrollment booklet, as it pertains to deductibles.
- City Health Clinic at 1803 Union. They can treat many common illness cases and anyone who was in the city health plan as of Oct. 1, 2014 are eligible to be treated there at no cost. They are open Monday & Friday from 8am to 4 pm, and Tuesday thru Thursday from 11am and 7 pm.

Information from the president:

- President Mike Lee nominated ACRE member Bobby Collins as a voting member of the ACRE board. Without objection the board approved the appointment. Bobby will serve as co-chair on the ACRE pension committee.
- By April 2019 all Medicare cards will no longer use your social security number as part of the identification card. New cards, between now and April 2019, will be issued by the government.
- The latest numbers show that there are 968 grandfathered retirees, 1,360 post 65 retirees with Medicare A & B, and 382 pre65 retirees still in the city's plan.
- Good Shepherd Group. Membership is \$30 a month. If you qualify the membership fee covers all of your drugs. You cannot be over 200% of the national poverty level, which is \$23,540 for a single person and \$31,860 for a retiree and spouse. President Lee stated that this was not an endorsement of the group, but an alternative that some member might want to consider.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The information contained in this report was shared with the general membership.

John M. Johnson, Secretary