



GASHLAND EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SESSION MEETING

JUNE 13, 2024

MEETING MINUTES

<b><u>Ruling Elders Present:</u></b>	<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Crossett	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Brink	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Blakely
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Langford	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Clapham	<input type="checkbox"/> Ethan Funk
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dave Wiersma	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bob Williams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Johnson

Excused: Ethan Funk

**Teaching Elders Present:**  Pastor Michael Morefield

**Guests:** Nicole Moncada

- I. **Opening prayer:** After a quorum was determined present, Mark Blakely opened the meeting with prayer at 6:48 p.m.
- II. **Adoption of Agenda:** The agenda was adopted, with the addition of New Business Item #7, Minutes Process.
- III. **Children Ministries Carpet Proposal:** Nicole Moncada presented information and a funding request for the purpose of updating the children's classrooms. The funding request was \$22,850. Mike Brink made a motion to approve an funding not to exceed \$20,000 for the upgrades. Seconded by Tom Crossett. Dave Wiersma made a friendly amendment to the motion, approved by Mike Brink, to allow \$25,000 in funding. Mark Johnson seconded. Motion failed, 3 yes/5 no. Bob Williams made a motion to approve funding not to exceed \$22,850 for the upgrades. Mark Blakely seconded. Motion passed, 7 yes/1 no. Tom Clapham will communicate this approval of funding to Nicole Moncada and also the Property team.
- IV. **Review/Approval of Previous Session Meeting Minutes:**  
May 9 Session Meeting Minutes – Approved as written.
- V. **Pastor's Report:**  
Senior Pastor: Pastor Morefield reported....
  - A. Upcoming schedule for pulpit supply and guest pastors for Sunday morning services.
  - B. A previous employee has requested personal files left the work computer. It was agreed for Michael to communicate with the past employee and provide the personal files.
  - C. Continued tuition support for Lake McGinty for summer tuition.
- VI. **Calendar Items:** None



GASHLAND EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SESSION MEETING

JUNE 13, 2024

MEETING MINUTES

**VII. Business Reports and Discussion:**

A. Old Business:

1. Password Management – Chris Stackpole provided three options and requested further direction from session. Tom Clapham will follow up with Chris on his recommendations.
2. Amos house: Long-term plan? ATP use? The ATP tenant has moved out. It was agreed to put use of the house for the ATP program on hold. With Caleb Mason no longer here leading Outreach, there is no clear vision for the use of the house. Pastor Morefield suggested to ask Property team to inspect the house condition, get quotes for demo cost and determine approximate market value, for informational purposes. Tom Crossett so moved, seconded by Mark Johnson. Motion passed. Tom Clapham will communicate the request to Property team.
3. Review of 2<sup>nd</sup> Due Diligence Letter: Mike Brink has provided a draft and will be incorporating input from other session members as applicable. The letter will be sent out soon.
4. Search Updates: Pastor Morefield provided updates on the current open position searches.

B. New Business

1. 5/29 Call from neighbor Becky, 520 NE 81<sup>st</sup> St., regarding Amos house 816-914-9034: Mike Brink will contact the neighbor.
2. Outreach Ministry team: Bob Williams and Mark Johnson shared updates, concerns and challenges of the team, and the efforts that will continue.
3. Interim Staff salaries – overview/coordination with 2024 budget: Discussion focused on total salaries for all interim positions relative to the operating budget. Interim salaries are within the budget.
4. Pre-topic intro for July or Aug. mtg: What are our responses when the culture comes calling at GEPC? E.g. LGBTQ, Transgender, Gender Identification, etc.: Bob Williams briefly shared concern that these types of issues will be encountered and our church will need to be prepared as to how to address these issues.



GASHLAND EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SESSION MEETING

JUNE 13, 2024

MEETING MINUTES

5. Logo, Website and Software Proposal:

Pastor Morefield proposed to move \$3600 from the recent unmarked \$30K donation for Logo, website and software costs. Bob Williams seconded.

Motion passed.

Also proposed, that Pastor Morefield, Ethan Funk, Mark Blakley and Jim Langford be commissioned to work on and develop the new logo. Mike Brink seconded. Motion passed.

Pastor Morefield proposed to spend \$640 on a new website platform. Tom Clapham made a friendly amendment to increase the amount \$1,000. Tom Crossett seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Pastor Morefield has researched option to replace Church Community Builder (CCB) and has found better options. A motion was made to replace CCB and adopt Breeze, Show-it, and Flowdesk (software applications). Mark Blakley seconded. Motion passed.

6. Choir Director Search Committee Recommendation: Kelly Hackleman has been recommended by the search team to be selected as the Choir Director. Mike Brink made a motion to hire Kelly, at a salary of \$36,000 per year, with an allowance of \$4,000 per year budgeted for accompanists. Bob Williams seconded. Motion Passed.

7. Minutes Process: Mike Brink noted that team minutes are not being updated or posted to the website in a timely or complete manor. Pastor Morefield will follow up with office admin staff, who may ask for volunteer help. All final minutes should be emailed to [approvedminutes@gashland.org](mailto:approvedminutes@gashland.org).

C. Team Reports: Brief highlights of ministry teams were provided.

1. Worship
2. Outreach
3. Relationships
4. Discipleship
5. Coordinating:

A. Dave Wiersma requested the approved position descriptions of the currently open positions be forwarded to Coordinating team for record purposes.



GASHLAND EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SESSION MEETING  
JUNE 13, 2024  
MEETING MINUTES

- B. Coordinating team/HR recommended providing payment to Caleb Mason for the four-week leave previously approved by session, plus the remainder of his unused regular vacation time. Mike Brink made a motion to pay Caleb Mason the entirety of his remaining 2024 vacation time. Mark Blakley seconded. Motion passed. CT/HR recommendation regarding four-week leave was not approved.
- C. Coordinating team is working to update and revise the GEPC Employee Handbook, using appropriate references, such as Guide One.

D. Clerk's Report

- 1. Next Session Meeting: July 11, 6:30 p.m.

E. Consent Reports

- 1. Deacon's Report: Received 5/22/2024
- 2. Financial Report: Received 6/12/2024

VIII. **Adjournment and Closing Prayer:**

Bob Williams made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mark Blakley. Motion passed.  
Meeting adjourned at 9:51 p.m.