

# Facility Team Meeting Notes

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April 23, 2009

Attendance: Pastor Evelyn Dahlke, Susan Mattson, Sally Palm, Pastor Craig Pederson, Peter Radford, Virginia Schnabel, Jennifer Schultz, Cathie Witzel, and David Raymond, facilitator. This meeting was held at the LSS Center for changing lives.

1. Pastor Lee Cunningham of Messiah opened the meeting with prayer and talked about Messiah's experience of moving out of its former building into the Center for Changing Lives.
2. The team recommends that NEC accept the offer of the Gopher Company to inspect roof on 13<sup>th</sup>, assuming that there is not a cost involved.
3. We shared comments from the tour last Sunday: Can we have a pipe organ? We shouldn't carpet the multipurpose room if kids are eating in there. Several commented on the skylights, including one who called them beautiful. People felt that the space earmarked for the sanctuary is large enough. Others had difficulty visualizing how the sanctuary might look. Someone suggested a timed door lock system. About 50 people attended the tour.
4. Quick report on meeting with Eugene Piccolo of MN Association of Charter Schools:
  - a. Schools get up to 90% of \$1,200 lease aid from state—some efforts to control
  - b. Schools get \$5,124 Average Daily Membership per kid grades 4-6 + special aid
  - c. Lease aid cannot subsidize other users of the building—it must be fair market rate
  - d. Schools pay 10% of lease and operating expenses out of ADM
  - e. There are 160 charter schools in Minnesota with 15% annual growth; a few close
  - f. Association advocates no change in law about school ownership of buildings
  - g. Charter schools cannot locate in former public schools unless vacant 3 years
  - h. MTCS is the largest school in Minnesota and considered to be well-run
  - i. He doesn't know of other schools looking for space for this fall but will check
5. We looked at the projected operating costs and agreed that this information should go to the congregation. The MTCS board is meeting on the letter of intent. Preliminary cost estimates should be available from Dave Lent by April 29.
6. Dave disclosed his 30+ year association with Tony Scallon. Dave will prepare a report to NorthMarq that will state that congregation members support public education and will consider a charter school tenant only if the school is already existing in Minneapolis, would continue to exist even if we didn't lease to it, and a school that serves a population with special needs.
7. We want to be on the lookout for potential community tenants for non-shared space (arts, social services, other non-profit). We will discuss this at the next meeting.
8. We recognize that we are on a tight but potentially workable timetable for a July target date for closing. We will interview prospective architects, including Tom Johnson, Paul Gates and a Northeast firm like RSP at a meeting soon.
9. We will have a narrative paper that answers the questions that members have raised by Sunday May 3, and the facility team will conduct an information meeting after worship that day. After that meeting each member of the congregation will be called by a member of the facility team to hear feedback.
10. The council is meeting on May 12 to hear a report from the facility team and set a special meeting.
11. We will start meeting weekly—next meeting is Thursday April 30 at 6:30 at the 13<sup>th</sup> building.