

Long Range Planning Committee
Notes from April meeting

Present: Kaye Bernard, Marian Kunetka, Jim Halsell, David Clay, Bret Park, Hershey Garner, Linda Kelly, Bob Kelly, Charlie Rigsby, Lowell Grisham, Charlie Russell, Loyd Swope

We went through a review of the interviews with ministry leaders. We still have a couple of the reports to come in. Lowell will consolidate those reports into a consistent format and try to create an executive summary that outlines things that we can respond to now and potential long range goals.

Some of the findings from the interviews – we are using our current space very flexibly, and that’s a norm we need to continue in any potential new space. The staff and program groups are very good at sharing space, and we don’t seem territorial. It appears we are at maximum capacity in most space uses. There is some need to bring some of our technology up to date.

We have recently upgraded the sound and AV capacity in the Parish Hall.

Jeremy reported that the new public WiFi on the square doesn’t make it to St. Paul’s. There was some discussion about the possible need for a storage building for the furniture and equipment for the new *Caring Friends* respite ministry. Loyd Swope said that he might be able to get a temporary pad donated.

Lowell told about visiting Holy Trinity Church in Greensboro, NC, a church that is similar in ethos and energy to St. Paul’s but at the next step of development. They have chosen to live with crowding in their worship space and offering overflow seating in a nearby chapel with video display. They have used their resources to acquire adjoining property to develop for offices, meeting rooms, a bookstore, a community garden and for various outreach ministries.

Lowell visited a property that is co-owned by George Faucette where there is rental space available, most from what used to be the Morning News offices.

We spent most of the rest of the meeting walking around the worship space area and brainstorming about possibilities for expansion. Some ideas – another aisle south of the building with a similar roof line to the bookstore/Guild Hall? ...extending the back to the church to somewhere near the current back wall of the vesting room and incorporating all of that for the choir? ...raising the roof higher if we go longer so it won’t feel tunnel-like? Bob Kelly is going to try to add some sketches to his CAD model for us to look at. ...we might consider developing the corner of Dickson and College into a 6-floor structure with income generating space at ground level and ministry spaces above?

Bret Park offered a maxim about the “normative power of the actual.”