

**First Baptist Church  
The Discernment Team  
September 5, 2018**

Members present: Richard Bishop (Public Member), Paul Chotlos (Board of Trustees), Carolyn Cross (Board of Education), Wynn Davies (Board of Outreach), Carla Eakins (Church Clerk), Beth Gunshor (Public Member), Tom Kersten (Vice Moderator), Katy Marty (Board of Deacons), Brooke Siddell (Pastoral Relations Committee) and Jill Thomas (Public Member)  
Absent: Nancy Emmert (Pastoral Relations Committee), and Bill Fiore (Moderator)

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by Vice Moderator Tom Kersten.

**1. Opening Prayer**

Tom opened the meeting with prayer.

**2. Review of DGI's Revised Proposal**

Team members discussed the revised proposal and concerns were expressed about the lack of detail and the increased cost. After thoughtful discussion, the consensus of the team was that the Design Group's proposal does not meet the needs of FBC. A motion by Wynn to cease negotiations with the Design Group was seconded by Brooke and passed unanimously. After further discussion, committee members decided that hiring a consultant is not the best way to proceed. Wynn introduced a motion to discontinue the plan to hire a consultant. The motion was seconded by Tom and passed by unanimous vote. Wynn will inform the proposed consultants of the team's decision.

**3. Communications with Congregation**

Beth's draft letter to the congregation was discussed. Committee members also discussed scheduling more listening sessions and it was suggested that they be called conversations with the congregation. Rich, Wynn, Jill and Beth volunteered to form a subcommittee to identify subjects and structure for the conversations. Possible use of a facilitator for the conversations was discussed. The subcommittee will consider the possibilities of hiring an outside facilitator or asking someone from the congregation to serve in that capacity. Beth will revise the letter to the congregation to include a timeline for scheduling the conversations. The letter will be mailed, published in *The Visitor* and posted on the bulletin board.

**4. Discussion of Hiring an Interim/Transitional Minister**

Team members discussed hiring an interim/transitional minister with experience in assisting churches in transition. Wynn volunteered to develop a draft job description for an interim/transitional minister.

**5. Miscellaneous Business**

Team members were reminded that the program for the Third Tuesday Lunch on September 18 will be a progress report on the activities of the Discernment Team.

In light of the decision to not hire a consultant, Team members decided to reconsider the questionnaire developed by Brooke.

**6. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be at 7 pm on Wednesday, September 19. Team members who have agreed to tasks are asked to try to complete their work within a week so they can be discussed at the meeting.

**7. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carla Eakins, Church Clerk