

## **BC meeting - 6/15/2023**

### **Focus of meeting: Discussion of whether to proceed with plan to explore option to buy church building at 7065 E County Road 400 N**

Jim – Brendan said we have to move quickly but we can decline until we sign. We need to let the know our intention to proceed.

The asking price is 1.7 million but it is reported to be negotiable. There are items we may want to keep. Jim trusts that the Brendan and the Diocese will continue to support us. There are a lot of variables here. We don't know how much the diocese will help but we will have a mortgage and utilities. They know we are a mission and they know our financials.

We made it very clear to Brendan that this is a stepping stone for us. We will continue to move forward with the Village Hub. Our issue is that we don't know what will happen with Harris. In addition, we can't do any extra ministries without space and it is very inconvenient for Barbie and others each Sunday. John points out that Jim has no space for confidential conversations and Jim added they only have space at the Diocese office Tuesdays 10-2.

Katy points out that we all agree that we need more space. Melinda asked whether Kevin has looked at places to rent. Jim reports he is looking at some as well. Katy suggests that we also get more information about a rental space. John reports that if we rent we do have continued uncertainty all the time. Jim shared that it has been made clear that we will have to leave Harris Academy by October 2025 and we are not eligible to rent from any other BCSC building.

Jim points out that we are not making a final decision today; we are just letting the Diocese know whether we are willing to go forward. There is concern that if we wait, we will lose the option. There is a current offer that does not appear likely to go through as they have not taken the steps they need to take and there are concerns about the funding. This should be resolved by next Friday.

Mike suggests that if we make an offer we start lower (ie 1.2 million). The Diocese does not give us the money; they help us get funding. The question is how much the downpayment will be and how much we will have to pay. John suggests that if we can get the building, this is a financial stepping stone for us. If we can't make this work, we won't be able to make a much larger village hub work. Jim pointed out that this is a chance to show some "sweat equity", that we can manage a building. John is going to NY in two weeks to meet with Trinity Wall Street.

John moves we state that “we have a strong interest in moving forward”, Christa seconds. If we say yes today, everything else moving forward is negotiated. Jim points out the multiple benefits of having a building, including having visibility and ability to expand our ministries. Tim suggests that we could also do another billboard.

All agreed, motion carried as unanimous.

Mike will ask about getting help for plans for Jim’s inauguration. He will ask for help from church members. It will be a eucharistic service, presided by the Bishop, with an inauguration ceremony and reception after.