

Special Called Lexington District Conference
January 10, 2023 via Zoom

18 people present

Rev. Aaron Mansfield opened in prayer

Rev. James Williams welcomed everyone and explained District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Ismar Alvarez called this meeting to discuss the sale of the parsonage. Most other Districts have moved to a housing allowance.

Possibilities have been discussed by District Trustees, Church Building and Locations Committee (CBLC) and District Superintendency Committee; all in agreement to sell.

Rev. Williams asked for a motion

The Board of Trustees of the Lexington District of the United Methodist Church represented by Rev. Chad Foster, chair, moved:

1. List the District parsonage (located at 505 Burning Tree Circle, Lexington, KY 40509) for sale.
2. Authorize the Board of Trustees to enter into a contract, and close sale on said property at a sale price greater than or equal to \$550,000.
3. Authorize Rev. Chad Foster, Chair of Trustees, to sign all necessary documents to complete these actions

Seconded by Rev. Faron Owen but not required as it came from committee

Rev. Williams opened the floor to questions.

Rev. Timo Karoven: why?

Rev. Foster: there has been significant deferred maintenance, windows, electric, water problems, etc. the District cannot afford. This will only get worse over time.

Rev. Williams: a housing allowance is better stewardship for the District.

Rev. Tom Eblen: has it been appraised?

Rev. Foster: no, \$550k is relator guesstimate, but we are selling as is. We anticipate a sale price of more than \$600k. Rev. Williams affirmed this

Rev. Dr. Esther Jadhav: What is the intended use of the sale funds?

Rev. Owen (CBLC chair): Documents may be viewed at lexdistrictumc.org. CBLC approval is contingent on all funds being invested and first earnings going to the Superintendent's housing allowance. Any earnings after the housing allowance is paid will be used/budgeted at the District's discretion. Rev. Owen noted there is already \$22,900 budget for the parsonage that could go towards a housing allowance. Only earnings could be used for operations and/or ministry.

Rev. Williams invited Dr. Alvarez to speak. Dr. Alvarez indicated conversations regarding this sale have been ongoing for many years. He noted most of the Kentucky Annual Conference is moving to a housing allowance, and that the District no longer has the expense of office rent.

Dr. Alvarez thanked the CBLC and Trustees for their guidance and approval. He also remarked this sale will simplify any reorganizing of Districts that may be needed in the future.

Rev. Williams commented the parsonage is livable and nice home, but the maintenance is too expensive. The District can afford basic repairs but has not done a lot of things due to budget. Selling is the best course of actions.

Rev. Williams called for the vote:

Unanimously approved

Dr. Alvarez closed in prayer