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**August 27th, 2023**

**Here We Stand Town Hall Update**

* Reviewed Here We Stand (HWS) Stage 4 (Design & Funding) status update:
	+ ~65 people were in attendance
	+ It was noted that the Secondary Objective for the Building Entrance – “One Church” – was removed previously.
	+ The main scope parts include:
		- Sanctuary Renovations
		- New Signage – this scope was removed during prior meetings because of the future 518 expansion and unknowns. Savings of $70K.
		- AFLC Restrooms – this scope was removed because it is not part of the primary objectives and can be added later as a stand-alone item. Savings of $270K.
	+ It was noted that the RENEW Initiative goes beyond the Here We Stand capital project to improve the sanctuary. It is an overarching strategy for our future vision with the church.
	+ The lighting will be recessed in the Sanctuary.
	+ The Sanctuary upgrades will include new seating, new carpeting, new paint, and new fixtures.
	+ The current cry room will not be impacted, leaving its function to be determined, such as becoming a utility room. This is still an open item. The future cry room would be moved to an existing classroom with AV run to it to enable live streaming of the worship service.
	+ The schedule includes consideration for:
		- 9/17/23 – Voter’s meeting to approve the amount of the capital loan and long lead items (e.g. HVAC).
		- 9/29/23 – Loan Application Submittal deadline
		- 11/28/23 – District Board Meeting
		- Early Dec – Voter’s meeting to approve Construction start with Axis.
* Questions & Answers:
	+ Q: Will the renovations include new sheetrock and paint?
		- A: The lessons learned from the MDO upgrades will be used which including scraping all of the old paint off, applying fresh primer, and painting while the appropriate time to cure. MDO has not had issues since.
	+ Q: Why not take the windows out of the cry room?
		- A: This is an open item which could still be determined.
	+ Q: Choir cannot see the tv monitor to follow along with the congregation.
		- A: This could be a consideration to include with the AV scope
	+ Q: Haven’t we already gained approval to move forward with the project?
		- A: Because the costs went so high, the HWS project went back to Studio Red Architects (SRA) to get a better scope and determine if costs could be reduced. Voters approved this direction in November 2022.
	+ Q: How much money has been spent in the last 5 years since we started the renovation efforts?
		- A: $200,085 (Stage 4 Budget items: Site survey, Asbestos survey, architects, generosity consultant, and communications consultant) + $99,670 (organ) = $299,755 TOTAL. The approved Stage 4 budget is $293,000. Note the organ purchase was approved outside of the Stage 4 budget. But the project ultimately pays.
	+ Q: Has minimum holding account been maintained?
		- A: No, it is currently at $25K but it will be replenished. Funds exist within the Renew account if needed.
	+ Q: Does the Utility Storage Room on the drawings (10X10 space) have enough space for a cry room?
		- A: Yes, but final function TBD.
	+ Q: Was the project bid out?
		- A: Yes, a qualification process was used to select Studio Red Architects in 2018, and a Request for Proposals (RFP) was used to select Axis (from 5 contractors) in 2022.
	+ Q: How firm is the Axis estimate:
		- A: Considered very firm, but Guaranteed Maximum Price expected in October
	+ Q: Who will order the chairs?
		- A: Axis will order the carpet. TBD who orders the chairs, but it will be determined by the September meeting.
	+ Q: Has lighting survey been completed (e.g. musicians need different sections lit)?
		- A: A letter of intent is included with the AV and lighting contractors.
	+ Q: How can the glare be reduced with the current window setup?
		- A: This could be discussed with the scope. Could consider external screens as part of scope change in future.
	+ Q: Could the congregation see examples of the potential chairs? Will modular seating be comfortable?
		- A: The project team can request samples brought to the church so that the congregation can better understand the pew concept that the modular chairs will provide. Vendor willingness will be communicated.
	+ Q: Will there be a warranty on the paint process?
		- A: See the lessons learned discussion above.
	+ Q: Is Landscaping part of the $2.25M?
		- A: Yes
	+ Q: Why is the church ceiling going to be replaced?
		- A: Acoustics, access to the AV and lighting needs, and it was previously installed to cover the poor paint job.
	+ Q: Should the MDO and office corridors also be upgraded? What about the windows and the external road signage?
		- A: These are part of the Add Alternatives. Can be included as money allows. Will be a discussion with the contractor at the point at which these items would need to be considered so that additional funding is not necessary. This will also be discussed regarding the contractor contract setup (e.g. baseline items which scope change for add-ons versus including in project as add-ons if money allows).
	+ Q: What about the elevator, AFLC roof, and HVAC replacement?
		- A: These are considered maintenance items and not part of the chartered objectives for HWS. A prioritized maintenance list is available, from which the Leadership Council and Facilities Manager are addressing items. In addition, the HWS project contingency is available only for the project scope and not extra items. If the contingency is not utilized for the project, it should either be de-scoped or new scope added through the scope change process.
	+ Q: How can the congregation continue to send their comments on the overview and drawings?
		- A: A form will be developed to capture the comments.