

STATUS REPORT ON BUILDING PROJECT June 1, 2010

I have been remiss over the past few months in not providing a progress report on our building project for the SCVUMC website. Hopefully the following will help bring you up to date on the building program. --- Vern Butler

On October 12, 2009 the Rancho Sahuarita reviewing Architect, Raul Reyes, provided a letter of approval for the building appearance. This approval, based on sketches provided by our Architect, Kim Acorn, was based on a three phase development. The initial phase would be a basic building of about 10,000 square feet. The second phase would be addition of a courtyard with appropriate walls to provide "mass" (larger total size) as desired by Rancho Sahuarita. The third phase would include a kitchen wing and a classroom/office wing. Specific exterior paint colors, wall decorations and roof structures were designated by Rancho Sahuarita.

Following the above approval our Architect could then proceed with completing a Development Plan for the site, initiating the Specific Improvement Plan and completing the Building Plans and Construction Specifications. These three major documents are required by the Town of Sahuarita before construction on the site can be initiated. On December 22, 2009 the Development Plan was submitted to the Town of Sahuarita for review. The review process consists of distributing the Development Plan to all pertinent Town Departments and several outside agencies such as Pima County Planning and water, gas, and electric utility companies, including Southwest Transmission Cooperative (the owner of the high voltage power lines on the church's tract). By January 15, 2010 the Town Planning Department had returned their comments and questions which totaled some 72 items, some minor, some major. The major concerns were with handling drainage coming off the school property and Sahuarita Road. Also the Town wanted to know the details about the proposed overhead power line easements among other items

After several meetings with Town representatives and correspondence with Rancho Sahuarita staff a second submittal on the Development Plan was made on March 9, 2010. In the meantime work continued on resolving the drainage issue. A proposal for a drainage channel along the northern boundary of the church's property was advanced but ran into objections from Rancho Sahuarita and request for additional details from the Town and the School. These objections were worked out and a final design prepared and submitted on May 26, 2010. In the meantime the Specific Improvement Plan had been submitted but since the Development Plan and the Improvement Plan are essentially the same, final approval should be forthcoming on both plans at the same time.

The building plans and details and the construction specifications were being finalized by Acorn Associates Architects with the assistance of the following:

- Hydrology -Patterson Hydrology Engineering,
- Landscaping - Acuna Coffen Landscaping Architects
- Structural – Modi & Company
- Mechanical – PH Mechanical Engineering
- Electrical – Mathews Consulting and design
- Fire Protection – Kelly Wright and Associates

The building plans and construction specifications were filed with the Town's Building and Safety Department on April 29, 2010. These plans and specifications consist of 42 sheets covering everything from site layout to grading to landscaping to framing to electrical to

plumbing to signage, etc. Review comments, and hopefully final approvals, are expected shortly but will be withheld until the Development and Improvement Plans are approved.

As these planning and design details were being worked out the Board of Trustees felt it was time to start gaining other approvals. The UMC Discipline outlines the internal approvals required. These include local church leadership (Board of Trustees, Finance Committee and Administrative Board) and the Congregation as a whole. On March 14, 2010 at an All Church Conference the Congregation approved construction of the building development at a further cost not to exceed \$1,500,000 and the financing of the project with existing and anticipated funds and a loan not to exceed \$1,100,000. The vote was 130 in favor and 0 against.

On March 23, 2010 the South District UMC Building and Location Committee approved the project construction and pursuit of financing.

On May 20, 2010 the Board of Trustees submitted a loan application to the United Methodist Federal Credit Union for a loan of \$1,100,000 to complete the building project. In addition to the three page application and four page environmental assessments, a notebook full of supplement material was filed. This supplemental material included a short history of SCVUMC, attendance numbers, community setting, building plans, cost estimates, historic financial reports and current budgets, building campaign results, available money and requested loan amounts. The remaining project costs include paying off the land note of \$325,000, completing the planning and design work, acquiring necessary permits and hookups, and allowing funding for interior work and furnishings. The earlier cost estimate of \$1,454,000 still appears to be reasonable.

Actual cost will not be known until a construction bid is obtained. Once the Town's building and other permits are in hand the construction plans will be submitted to five or six prequalified contractors for bids. When the construction costs are known and all permit fees are paid the funds remaining for interior work and furnishings will be known. The Trustees are collecting information and prioritizing costs for various interior work (partitions, audio/visual equipment, floor covering etc.) and furnishings (chairs, tables, office equipment, cabinets, etc.)

It has been a time consuming and frustrating experience to bring the building project to the point where construction can start. Through patience and faith in God we will succeed. The need is there and your faith and prayers are the basis for a successful project.

Respectively submitted,
Vern W Butler, Chairman,
Board of Trustees, SCVUMC