

LLB Meeting Minutes: January 2021

Subject/Purpose: Lay Leadership Board

Place: Zoom Meeting

Day/Date: 1-25-2021

Time: 5:30 PM

Duration: 1.5 Hrs.

Chair: Tom Lorenz

Recorder/Secretary: Rick Stowell

Notes specifically for this meeting: Conducted via Zoom (link sent separately)

Participants: indicates attendance:

Members: Tom Lorenz (Chair), Ryan Wittman (Vice-Chair), Rick Stowell (Secretary)

Heidi Cuca, Chris Cox, Jud Jesske, Gary Pickering, Kristy Plander, Shayla Reed

Staff expected: Arron Hutton Mark L'Heureux, Mike Milbourn, Jeff Scheich

Guests: Kyle Kaldahl (Treasurer)

Desired Outcomes of this meeting:

- Welcome new members/introductions. Kick off our new year.
- Agree on meetings going forward.

Agenda

Agenda Item: (led by)	Purpose: Inform/Discuss/Decide	Notes provided prior to meeting	Expected Duration
1. LLB Folder in Google Drive	Inform LLB on document-sharing system		10 min

Discussion: Mike explained how a Google storage folder will be used for LLB going forward:

- Documents will be added to folder on Google drive
- Rick & Tom will have editing capabilities initially
- Policies will have their own folder and are in process of being reviewed and updated

Decision/Recommendations:

- Everyone will need to set up a Google account and then contact Autumn Crable to get access to shared drive

2. Convention Vote (Pastor Hutton)	Decide whether for or against extending triennium 1 year	Voter registration provided to Tom. Vote due by end of January.	15 min
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Discussion: Pastor Hutton explained how Synod and district presidents are looking to move the triennial elections out a year due to the pandemic.

- Pastors Scheich and Hutton have differing views on how to vote on this. Pastor Scheich supports trusting leaders and going along with majority of churches by voting to extend by a year. Pastor Hutton expressed a desire to encourage creativity and forward-thinking approaches by keeping elections on schedule.
- Mark said he leans toward staying on current schedule [voting "No" to extension].
- Tom indicated there is a lot of work done at the conferences, with much done in advance by task forces.
- Mike asked the LLB to weigh [fiscal and non-fiscal] 'costs' vs. 'benefits'. Ryan echoed this concern.
- Kristy noted that districts may be/feel challenged to meet beforehand.
- Voting "No" would be voting our conscience; would not likely have any impacts [on the outcome of the vote nor on Christ Lincoln].
- Tom read District President Snow's message outlining reasoning for supporting a change ['yes' vote].

Decision/Recommendations:

- Tom will send out an email message on this and a ballot for our vote.

3. Treasurers Report (Kyle K.)	Discuss role of Treasurer and FOC		15 min
<p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kyle asked for clarity on how his role on LLB should be defined; what is his official status. He summarized the following [especially for new members] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The debt-reduction situation we are in the process of rectifying. His priorities as Treasurer: Financial Health, Accountability, and Transparency The role and composition of the Financial Oversight Committee (FOC) He encouraged developing and firming up some policies addressing: debt; incorporating more structure to FOC; keeping of notes and documentation [Who would take minutes]; including an 'at-large member' to enhance the perception of FOC and increase congregational buy-in; audits; designated funds; developing standard financial indicators (e.g. debt/budget); how to make mid-year adjustments in budget; communications to congregation; and the role of the Treasurer (including term, transition, participation on LLB). Make an organized set of financial policies, where things are logically laid out and readily found. He wants to improve financial communications. Town halls are a good start. Will look for guidance on what info to present to LLB, congregation, staff, etc.? He wants to develop forecasts; collaborate with peers on budgeting and forecasting. Thinking 5-year forecasts that can help with things like taking on and paying down debt. He has developed an email address Treasurer@ChristLincoln.org as a simple, consistent means of contact. 			
<p>Decision/Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make the Treasurer's role on LLB official at the February meeting. FOC will work on and present proposed policies to LLB. 			
4. Date for Board Orientation (Tom)	Decide on date and approach for board orientation/training		10 min
<p>Discussion: Kristy highlighted what Tony did last year to prepare new members. She indicated that there will always be struggles becoming engaged mid-stream. LLB members need help knowing staff members with whom we're likely to engage.</p>			
<p>Decision/Recommendations: Tom will develop a strategy for orientation to occur over the next 4-6 weeks.</p>			
5. Director of Ministries Interviews (Tom)	Discuss status of interview process		25 min
<p>Discussion: Tom provided a brief update on the search. Kristy and Tony S. (joined for this discussion only) described the upcoming interview schedules and confirmed participation where needed.</p>			
<p>Decision/Recommendations: Refer to separate communications outlining itineraries.</p>			

No report about the Foundation, Seminary or Sabbatical Funds

LLB Meeting Agreements and Assignments: January 2021		
Who: Lead responsibility	What: Assignment	When: Timing
All LLB members	Set up a Google account	< Feb. meeting
	Contact Autumn Crable (Mike) to get access to shared drive	< Feb. meeting
Tom L.	Send LLB message on Triennial conference and a ballot for our vote.	By January 29 th
Mike M. & Rick S.	Develop draft role of the Treasurer on LLB for discussion/adoption	< next meeting
Kyle K.	FOC will work on financial policies/practices to present to LLB	During 2021
Tom L.	Develop and implement strategy for orientation	Next 4-6 weeks