

LLB Meeting Minutes: February 2022 (approved 3-28-2022)

Subject/Purpose: Regular monthly meeting

Date: Monday, February 28, 2022

Time: 5:30 PM

Place: Meeting Space 3, Christ Lincoln Sumner

Zoom connection:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85206316652?pwd=U0llejBweXFMcTRLbjJCOTluSGIBUT09>

Participants: indicates attendance

Members: Tom Lorenz (Chair), Vacant (Vice-Chair), Rick Stowell (Secretary), Kyle Kaldahl (Treasurer),
 Chris Cox, Heidi Cuca, Jud Jesske, Jeff Lake, Gary Pickering, Kristy Plander, Shayla Reed

Executive staff: Michael Eckelkamp, Mike Milbourn

Invited staff: Sue Anne Philson (Director of Welcome Ministries), James Moseman (Director of Generosity and Advancement)

Desired Outcomes of the meeting:

- COO and DoM have feedback and direction desired to advance highlighted ministry items
- Those revising or developing policies have feedback and/or approval needed to advance them

Agenda items

Call to order / Opening prayer: Tom opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m. After an opening time of prayers, Sue Anne presented a devotion on 'being present'.

Minutes from prior meeting: Kristy moved (Gary 2nd) to approve the January meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Business Item:	Purpose: Inform/Discuss/Decide	Notes provided prior to meeting	Duration
1. DoM report	Inform, update and obtain guidance	Written report provided	55 min

Discussion:

Welcome Ministries: Sue Anne was invited to highlight the various efforts under this ministry area. Her staff play a key role in connecting people to the church, with 168 new members last year and 36 starting the Basics class, and connecting new members to other members and our ministry efforts. She noted that there are 600+ volunteer slots assisting in this ministry and there is continual fluctuation in volunteer rosters, so recruitment of volunteers is always needed – currently have 80+ open slots. She said that the recent hiring of a Café Coordinator should be a big blessing.

Pastor Eckelkamp highlighted efforts toward his Desired Outcomes, with emphasis on clarifying our mission and vision. He is working on reframing negative perspectives into positive opportunities and ensuring that the way staff operate is founded upon appropriate principles.

Position updates:

- We are interviewing four candidates for Director of Caregiving
- We will be interviewing candidates for Directors of Discipleship and Adult Education
- Joel Marquardt is deliberating our call as Director of Middle School Ministries
- Paul Kasaty is preparing to enter the Specific Ministry Program

Work Party: There is much work to be done at CL and we are looking to schedule a clean-up event in the spring. Exploring opportunities to support children's ministry fund-raising for church upkeep and community work.

Political matters: Pastor E. noted some concerns regarding handling of the recent petition gathering at CL. A key question is how to maintain reaching the lost in the community as the priority. Feedback included:

- Consider providing a statement to clarify our beliefs
- Prepare for future similar instances where a response will be needed

Decision/Recommendations: No actions taken. Keep us informed.

2. COO report

Decide on lender; discuss debt

35 min

Discussion:

Loan restructuring: Mike reported that Pinnacle Bank extended the most favorable terms for restructuring our loan – 7 years locked in at 3.5% interest. Jud moved (Heidi 2nd) to approve proceeding with Pinnacle Bank on restructuring our loan. Motion approved without dissent.

Paying down debt: Discussion focused on our vision regarding debt. Is becoming ‘debt-free’ part of that vision? A range of perspectives were brought forward, with common threads being:

- Communicate a plan for paying down debt and preventing debt from becoming a burden for ministry
- Retain flexibility to act upon opportunities that are in line with CL’s vision to reach the lost in our community

Mike and Pastor E. will develop some statements that address this discussion.

Decision/Recommendations: Restructure current loans with Pinnacle Bank

3. Policy updates

Inform, update and/or approval

35 min

Discussion:

Gift Acceptance Policy: Setting up communication and procedures – beginning with counters – to enable us to not accept or at least limit extent of restricted-purpose gifts. Issues can arise when restricted-use gift funds are not fully expended and remaining funds get transferred into the GF, which rarely aligns with the desire of the donor. The revised policy sets up a 3-year timeframe in which existing restricted-use funds are to be expended. Also includes consideration of cryptocurrencies. Kristy moved (Heidi 2nd) to approve the Gift Acceptance Policy. Motion passed unanimously.

Dedicated Accounts Policy: Establishes the procedures for creating and abolishing funds. Priority is establishment of funds that have long-term accounts that align with ministry objectives. Jud moved (Heidi 2nd) to approve the Dedicated Accounts Policy. Motion passed unanimously.

Shayla noted that recently approved amendments need to be put into CL’s official posted documents. She then highlighted the main policy changes currently in the works. After discussion of various approaches, there was agreement that the most desirable approach is to address both the Constitution and Bylaws at the same Congregational meeting if this is feasible. Pastor E. is reaching out to the District as to what changes in our Constitution require District approval – we want to be deliberate and communicate with members well throughout this process, but not get bogged down waiting for outside action.

Rick described reasoning behind him drafting procedures to facilitate member review and approve congregational meeting minutes quicker – since there currently can be a year between meetings and approval of minutes.

Decision/Recommendations:

- Approved the Gift Acceptance Policy and Dedicated Accounts Policy
- Revise the Constitution and the Bylaws at the same congregational meeting if this is feasible

Adjourn / Closing prayer Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.