

# LLB Meeting Minutes: March 2022 (approved 4-25-2022)

**Subject/Purpose:** Regular monthly meeting

**Date:** Monday, March 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:** Maria Castens, Executive Director of Family Ministries

**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 policies

## Agenda items

**Call to order / Opening prayer:** Tom called meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Maria led opening devotion on serving.

**Minutes from prior meeting:**

Jud moved (Shayla 2<sup>nd</sup>) to approve the February meeting minutes. Motion carried wo/dissent.

Tom noted that he had appointed Jud as Vice-Chair. Affirmation was voiced by LLB without dissent.

Business Item: (Led by)	Purpose: Inform/Discuss/Decide	Notes provided prior to meeting	Duration
1. Invited staff report (Maria Castens)	Inform, update and obtain guidance		10 min

**Discussion:** Maria reported that:

- Over 300 youth are being served in our ministry; 75+ are going to Houston for National Youth Gathering.
- Joel Marquardt has accepted our call as Middle School Ministries Director and will start later in April.
- Megan Adams is moving, creating an opening in Children's Ministry Coordinator at Sumner.
- Family Ministries is in process of interviewing for two positions.

**Decision/Recommendations:** None

2. DoM report (Pastor E.)	Inform, update and obtain guidance	Separate DoM report and draft policy on handling political activity provided	30 min
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**Discussion:**

Ministry-alignment: Pastor E. highlighted the ministry-alignment document (provided) that guides his work at CL. He's working with staff leaders toward leading teams (**we** are doing \_\_\_ ) and away from personal activity (**I** am doing \_\_\_ ) in accomplishing ministry. Several questions were raised regarding the document, with a prevalent theme looking for tangible actions and results; Pastor E responded that the greatest utility of the document was focusing on consistent values in all interactions [especially with staff]. There was discussion on looking at our Desired Outcomes – likely after June – to see what revisions may be needed.

A follow-up discussion involved our growth in new members vs. net growth. Tracking of attendance and/or participation is a continuing challenge.

Run Hard, Rest Well: Heidi highlighted this event and some feedback on benefits to attendees. Pastor E. responded to questions about engaging members and those in sister churches in such events.

Positions: Pastor E. shared that he has approached a candidate about the Director of Caregiving position and it appears that this may lead to a call being extended.

Work Party: Set for May 21<sup>st</sup> with specific maintenance outcomes for each ministry area.

Addressing debt: Ongoing attention is being given to managing debt while planning for growth.

Handling political matters: Pastor E. highlighted the challenge that we experienced last month and the proposed policy that was developed in an effort to better manage future situations. Concerns were raised about practical implementation of the proposed policy and non-missional perceptions that might arise relative to doing such activity on church grounds. We will have continued discussion on this and seek a champion to navigate future engagement on issues.

**Decision/Recommendations:** None

<b>3. COO report (Mike)</b>	Inform and update	Separate report provided	20 min
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**Discussion:** Mike highlighted items in his report:

Position updates: Full-time teacher and childcare positions have been filled.

Risk management: Practices are being evaluated to improve management of risk.

Facilities and capital improvement fund request:

- Plans for our three houses on 42<sup>nd</sup> St. were presented – two houses are to be torn down and one is to get significant improvements (mainly to roof). FOC has discussed and approved the plans. Kristy moved (Heidi 2<sup>nd</sup>) to approve spending up to \$35k in capital improvement funds to remove houses at 1700 and 1826 South 42<sup>nd</sup> St. and make significant improvements to the house on 1710 South 42<sup>nd</sup> St. Motion carried without dissent.
- The Sumner campus now will receive cleaning services from the same company (KEH Cleaning) as the Yankee Hill campus and is in need of some deferred hallway maintenance.
- The facilities portion of our operating budget appears on track to balance at fiscal year-end, as lower-than-projected expenses for snow removal should offset higher expenses in other areas.

Loan update: Our consolidation loan is in process; Pinnacle Bank has said that documents are being sent confirming that the agreed-upon fixed rate is secure.

**Decision/Recommendations:**

- Approved spending up to \$35k in capital improvement funds to remove houses at 1700 and 1826 South 42<sup>nd</sup> St. and make significant improvements to our house on 1710 South 42<sup>nd</sup> St.
- Continue communications with Pinnacle Bank to ensure debt financing is secured as intended.

<b>4. Financial report (Kyle)</b>	Inform		10 min
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**Discussion:**

January & February balance sheets: Kyle reported that we are +\$180k compared to budget for the fiscal year through the end of February, due largely to underspending (in part, from being short-staffed). The Harger Group is helping us improve our processes, which, while not in error, are very unwieldy.

FOC updates: Kyle noted that FOC is looking at roles of members. The budget proposed for 2022-23 will be made available in May – after being reviewed and approved by FOC. Kyle’s priorities include:

- Getting out of debt
- Having balanced (no deficit) budgets
- Taking care of staff

**Decision/Recommendations:** None

**5. Policy updates**  
(Shayla)

Inform, obtain feedback and/or approval

Refer to material provided last month.

15 min

**Discussion:**

We discussed the status of currently proposed changes in the Constitution and Bylaws. Intent is to present these proposed changes well in advance of a future congregational meeting to allow plenty of time for members to review and discuss them.

Upcoming call meeting is on Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. The desire is to keep the focus on the call. Have minutes from prior congregational meetings ready for approval at next call meeting.

**Decision/Recommendations:** Continue work on proposed changes in Constitution and Bylaws

**Adjourn / Closing prayer** Meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.