

LLB Meeting Minutes: June 28, 2021 (Approved August 30, 2021)

Subject/Purpose: Regular monthly meeting

Place: Christ Lincoln Sumner w/Zoom connection

Day/Date: Monday, June 28, 2021

Time: 4:30 PM

Duration: 1.5 Hrs.

Chair: Tom Lorenz

Recorder/Secretary: Rick Stowell

Notes specifically for this meeting: Note earlier meeting time to allow for 6 PM congregational meeting

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

Staff invited: Michael Eckelkamp, Mike Milbourn

Guests: Allan Liermann

Desired Outcomes of the meeting:

- Approve 2021-22 budget
- Affirm DoM and priorities

Agenda

Call to order / Opening prayer: Tom opened the meeting at 4:35 p.m. Gary gave opening prayer.

Minutes from prior meeting: Jud moved (Heidi 2nd) to approve the minutes from May 24th. Minutes were approved.

Business Item:	Purpose: Inform/Discuss/Decide	Notes provided prior to meeting	Duration
1. 2021-22 Budget	Approve budget for coming year	Fiscal info provided by FOC	25 min

Discussion:

Kyle gave an overview of the final proposed (church, school and overall) budgets. The budget clearly distinguishes line items for regular loan P&I payments [in general fund] and additional principal payments [in debt retirement]. The proposed church budget shows a deficit/gap of about \$147k, while the school budget is balanced. Feasible ways for covering this gap will be explained during the upcoming financial town hall.

Several comments encouraged preparing in advance for future budgets that will account for additional P&I payments that will be incurred from YH loan payments.

Jud moved (Kristy 2nd) to approve the proposed budget. Motion carried unanimously. Kudos were extended to Mike, Kyle, FOC and staff for their preparation and dedicated work.

Financials: Kyle noted that the May financial statement shows how PPP-related salary savings were expended [according to the previously approved plan].

Decision/Recommendations: The 2021-22 fiscal year budget was approved.

2. DoM transition	Affirm Rev. Eckelkamp's transition into DoM role		20 min
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Discussion:

Heidi moved (Kristy 2nd) that the LLB officially recognize and affirm Rev. Eckelkamp into the role of Director of

Ministries. Motion passed unanimously. VDoM's leadership and service during a challenging period were commended.

Rev. Eckelkamp presented his priorities, within an overall framework of clarity and accountability:

1. **Understanding of stewardship.** Will be engaged in highlighting what is involved in Christian stewardship. Will address financials and time/talent
2. **Getting to know those for whom he's accountable.** Trust built upon high relationship. He's begun the process of meeting with each staff member. Communicating 'ministerial alignment'; communicating through conflicts.
3. **Vision-casting.** Communicate to build consensus, direction.

Decision/Recommendations: LLB affirmed Rev. Eckelkamp as DoM.

3. Congregational meeting	Review agenda and plans for the meeting		15 min
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Discussion:

Calls: Mark L'Heureux will introduce the (3) calls for Christ Schools teachers. Maria will introduce the call for the Middle School Ministries Director.

Peaceful releases: Pastor Eckelkamp will introduce why requests for peaceful releases are brought forward to the congregation for approval.

LLB agreed to present the calls and the requests for peaceful releases as two slates. Also confirmed that no other agenda items will be allowed (following proper protocol for congregational meetings).

Are installations planned or desired for the called workers? The thought is to have a service that honors this – ask called workers to participate in just one service.

Decision/Recommendations: Procedural items for the congregational meeting were established.

4. LLB activity	Discuss plans for orientation, participation of directors		10 min
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Discussion:

Tom solicited feedback on what would be desirable to address in training, orientation. Some ideas included:

- More forward-looking approach in conducting business – new members are ill-equipped to discuss, review, or resolve past actions.
- Advance training, pre-alignment of candidate gifts and roles needed.

Decision/Recommendations: Kristy, Mike, Tom and Michael will convene to develop training.

5. Housing allowance	Approve Pastor Eckelkamp's request for tax documentation		5 min
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Discussion:

Mike presented the letter from Pastor Eckelkamp documenting his housing allowance for tax purposes. Jud moved (Kristy 2nd) to approve. Motion carried unanimously.

Decision/Recommendations: Pastor Eckelkamp's housing allowance documentation was approved.

Adjourn / Closing prayer: The meeting included a brief time in executive session before adjourning at 5:55 p.m. Pastor Eckelkamp closed us in prayer.

LLB Meeting Agreements and Assignments: June 28, 2021

Who: Lead responsibility	What: Assignment	When: Timing
Mike & Kyle	Work with FOC to develop budget presentation for financial town hall	By July event
Mike & Tom	Work with staff to prepare for and coordinate congregational meeting	By July event
Tom	Work with Pastor E., Mike and Kristy to develop orientation plan	By end of Aug.