

Minutes of Congregation Council Meeting
July 18, 2023
7:00pm

- I. Call to Order 7:00pm
 - A. Attendance: Mike Berkheimer, Dean Black, Faye Casciano, Mike Epperly, Kristin Ervin, Amy Grubb, Sue Mathieu, Nina McNally, John Osenbach, Denise Rohrbach, Pastor Mark Wimmer, Pastor Tami Reichley
 - B. Excused: Bob Bolen, Hayden Fermier, Pastor Cindy Camp, Mark Stanziola
 - C. Devotions – Nina McNally
 - D. The Call Committee gave Council an update on where they are in the call process. In June, the Call Committee invited a Senior Pastor candidate to meet with the staff and then determined that the candidate would not be a good fit with LCHS.

- II. Adoption of previous month's Meeting Minutes. **Motion:** To approve minutes from the June 2023 monthly council meeting by John Osenbach with a **second** by Amy Grubb **APPROVED**.

- III. Staff Reports
 - A. Pr. Cindy:
 1. Asked for a space for the Youth and High School Connect Sunday School class to meet. With staff input, Council recommends Room 114.
 2. Requests that Council considers forming a committee so that a more comprehensive plan for our artwork can be formed: Council agreed and suggested Jeff Gross, Mark Stanziola, and someone from the decorating committee
 - B. Pr. Wimmer: no action items
 - C. Pr. Tami:
 1. proposed we plan a farewell for Chris Carter when his time in his position ends
 2. Re: Outreach: The Sixth Street Shelter apartment that LCHS chose to donate items/ sponsor has not had anyone move into it. Denise Rohrbach has been actively pursuing communication with the shelter director since the LCHS congregation generously donated items for three apartments. Outreach will propose to give the donated items to Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley and God's Work, Our Hands Sunday for aged-out foster children.

- IV. Old Business
 - A. Property Manager Property: the new hire did not come to their first day of work today; Mike Berkheimer will repost the position
 - B. Storage Space Cleanup: Denise Rohrbach: everyone has gathered all unwanted items and placed them in Room 114 with the intent to have representatives of the mission teams go through the items and determine if they are usable or to be discarded/donated.

C. October 8th Commitment/Consecration Sunday: Mike Berkheimer: more information to follow after the Stewardship meeting next week

V. Mission Team Reports

A. Stewardship: Mike Berkheimer: The Family Service has a Stewardship theme for July and August; also, there is Stewardship information in Holy Happenings in order to promote year-round focus on Stewardship. There was a request to add the zoom link to the Stewardship information being disseminated.

B. Follow up to the Mission Team Fair: the posters are on display every Sunday on a rotating schedule

C. Finance Finance: Mike Epperly: June 2023 Report:

1. Operating Income in June was \$ 55,354 being \$13.4 K lower than June \$68,776 Budget, with operating pledged income being \$8.3 K lower than its June Budget, with operating unpledged income being \$6.4 K lower than its June Budget, while combined loose plate and non - member contributions were \$0.7 K higher than combined June Budget.
2. Operating Income YTD stands at \$477,416 which is \$9.6 K higher than YTD Budget \$467,832. Variance YTD of \$9.6 K reflects combined impact of operating pledged income YTD being \$ 16.7 K lower, operating unpledged income YTD being \$15.0 K higher, combined loose plate and non - member contributions YTD being \$ 5.3 K higher, All Specials YTD \$ 2.6 K higher, Thrivent Income YTD being \$ 0.5 K higher and Interest YTD being \$1.8 K higher.
3. Operating Expenses in June were \$58,462 being \$7.8 K lower than June \$ 66,250 Budget.
4. Operating Expenses YTD in June \$412,353 being \$11.5 K lower than June \$423,887 YTD Budget. Most Mission areas in June were close or under June Budget. In June Resources for Ministry lower than Budget \$6.2 K mainly due to Technology and Service Contracts; Resources for Ministry \$10.4 K lower than YTD Budget thru June due to lower Technology, Professional Services, Building Maintenance and Service Contracts offset by higher Paper expense; Accrual Nursery School adjustment of \$4,087 in June.
5. Net Income in June was deficit of \$3,108 which is \$5.6 K lower than expected June Budget Net Income of \$ 2,525 bringing YTD Net Income to \$ 65,063 which is \$ 21.1 K higher than YTD Budget of \$ 43,944.
6. Operating Cash Balance increased from \$ 138,750 on 05/31/23 to \$ 139,729 on 06/30/23.
7. SPIRIT LED / SPIRIT ALIVE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN Account cash balance is \$11,121. (June donations \$ 952) No June expenses.
8. BUILDING PROJECT LOAN Balance on Mission Investment Fund Building. Project loan at end of June \$403,820.
9. BUILDING FUND June month end balance was \$10,787. (Donations \$ 490) No June expenses.
10. RESOLUTION FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE: Finance Committee recommends completion of Hallway Project involving hallway area between double doors adjacent to Room 117 / 119 down the hallway towards the Canopy entrance as submitted by Property Committee. Work involves

installation of new 2 X 2 ceiling grid and new ceiling tiles with new LED flat panel lights. Also includes relocation of existing fire / network ceiling mounted items and removal of one base board heater unit near Canopy end of hallway. Funding for Hallway Project will be the following :1. Undesignated Memorial Funds of \$2,600 and 2. Portion of Edie Gliem estate of \$ 5,900 to cover the TOTAL HALLWAY PROJECT COST of \$8,500. Therefore, Finance Committee Requests Congregational Council approval of Hallway Project as described utilizing the two funding sources indicated above for TOTAL HALLWAY PROJECT COST of \$8,500. **Motion** by Mike Epperly to approve the Hallway Project and to grant Finance Committee's request for the funding; John Osenbach **seconded**. **APPROVED**.

D. Faith Formation for Youth: Kristin Ervin

1. National Youth Gathering - Amber O'Brien has asked for clarification as to what funds raised for the Youth Gathering can go towards. Council affirmed that the money raised can pay for all fees and expenses associated with the National Youth Gathering. Council will look into any scholarships for registration fees as needs arise.
2. Remind app - Amber O'Brien would like to move forward with using the Remind App as a way to blast out communication with families, starting as Sunday School starts up. She will ensure that every child will have a parent on the app and that the app will be set up to ensure that there will be no individual messaging between Amber and youths.

VI. New Business

A. Council will hold a Planning Workshop in August in lieu of the August 2023 meeting, date to be confirmed by Mike Berkheimer: either Thursday, August 17th from 4-8 PM or Thursday, August 24th from 4-8 PM

B. Assignment of devotions for September 19, 2023 meeting: Faye Casciano

C. Adjourned at 9:25 with a prayer by Pr. Wimmer.