

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH
12650 JOHNNY CAKE RIDGE ROAD, APPLE VALLEY, MN 55124
Minutes of Church Council Meeting
Date: 6/15/2023
On-Site Community Room

Attendees:

Melissa Taphorn, President
Paul Moyer, Vice President
Dick Rank, Treasurer
Carleen Crouse, Secretary*
Amber Kocemba
Bernie Zimmermann (absent)
Jon Hohenstein
Melissa Tapper (absent)

Pastor Rick Summy
Rachel Wermerskirchen
Robin Robinson
Shirl Alojado
Alyssa Isaacs*
Jennifer Davidson*
Kelsey Young*
*denotes non-voting member

Call to Order: President Melissa Taphorn called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM. Robin Robinson shared an opening prayer. Melissa Taphorn shared a revisit of IDI homework around the values continuum activity that was done previously.

Vision and Leadership Teams Reports: Pastor Rick Summy shared an update on the recent New Members class. \$240K raised for Planting Hope campaign, anticipating receiving 70-75% by end of fiscal year. Summer attendance has been okay, hoping that carries through to fall. No questions or follow ups after Congregational Meeting. Kelsey Young shared CYF staff is doing excellent work. Pre-K/K mini-camp wrapped up this week. 1-3 grades will increase from 45 to 60. Event replacing summer stretch has 8 signed up currently. VBS numbers are strong (308 across both weeks, 3 more weeks of registration). Rebranding GodZone to Shepherd's Kids, all programs are rebranded and colors coordinate. Fall registration opened June 1st (181 registrations so far). Team is in peak volunteer recruiting season, still in need of VBS, mini-camp and fall programming volunteers. Alyssa Isaacs shared Lisa Marie is fully on board and doing well. Revamped bulletin, weekly e-mail, News for the Flock and updating website. Click and open rates are higher than industry standards. Social media reach and interactions are up as well. Starting merchandise options (t-shirts and window clings) for online store. Alyssa has been working on reviewing all ministry groups and creating evaluation for events held. Working on increasing engagement at Mission & Ministry Fair in September, online community and staff buy-in. Jennifer Davidson shared she is working on updating documents/templates for volunteerism. Also working on budget. Preschool wrapped up, 2 teachers not returning in the fall. Hired new Fellowship and Hospitality Leader, still looking for a fourth. Nursery still has openings to hopefully expand beyond weekend services. Music programs are on summer break. Starting planning for Summer Block Party and Mission & Ministry Fair.

Secretary's Report: The council reviewed the minutes to the May 18, 2023 Church Council meeting and the June 4, 2023 Congregational Meeting. Shirl Alojado moved to approve the secretary's report of the Church Council meeting of May 18, 2023 and Congregational Meeting on June 4, 2023. Jon Hohenstein seconded the motion, and the council voted unanimously, 9-0, to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2023 Church Council meeting and the June 4, 2023 Congregational Meeting.

Finance Report: Dick Rank provided an overview of the May financials, close to original budget number. Received about \$40K for Planting Hope this month. Plan on summer months being down in giving. Paid \$9,808 on mortgage. Down in offering this year compared to last year. Showing net YTD, \$373K. Jon Hohenstein moved to approve the May finance reports. Paul Moyer seconded the motion, and the council voted unanimously, 9-0, to approve the May finance reports.

Dick Rank walked the council through the next fiscal year's budget. Some questions were asked about the categories/line items. In January, mailing envelopes will have general and building/facilities to designate giving towards. This is already in place for online giving. Jennifer Davidson walked through the areas of savings for budget.

Melissa Taphorn proposed an amendment to the budget of making the Total General Income be \$2,617,108 so the Net Income/(Loss) is \$0 instead of (\$17,108). Jon Hohenstein moved to approve the amendment to the budget, Rachel Wermerskirchen seconded the motion, and the council voted unanimously, 9-0, to approve the amendment. Paul Moyer moved to approve the budget. Robin Robinson seconded the motion, and the council voted unanimously, 9-0, to approve the budget.

Nominations: Jennifer Davidson present Lynn Doolittle for HR Committee. Pastor Rick Summy moved to approve Lynn Doolittle for HR Committee. Jon Hohenstein seconded the motion, and the council voted unanimously, 9-0, to approve Lynn Doolittle for HR Committee.

New Business: Rachel Wermerskirchen and Melissa Taphorn shared some observations made regarding values from the IDI homework. August 17th Summer BBQ event. Congregational Meeting in September, date is TBD.

Adjourn: Jon Hohenstein moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 PM. Paul Moyer seconded the motion. The council voted unanimously, 9-0, to approve the motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,
Carleen Crouse, Church Council Secretary

Next Council Meeting:

July 27, 2023 at 6:30 PM, in-person, Community Room (*conflict July 20, 2023*)

August 17, 2023 at 6:00 PM, Leadership Teams Kick-off and BBQ

August 17, 2023 at 7:30 PM, modified Church Council meeting

September TBD at noon, Congregational Meeting

September 9, 2023 Block Party 4-7PM

September 16-17, 20, 2023 Mission & Ministry Fair