

**HOLY SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

August 13, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Administration Building

Mission Statement: Worshiping and growing together in Christ serving and reaching out joyfully to all.

Vision Statement: Trusting God + Loving the World

Decisions Made: Approval for the bee-keeper project and approval of a minor change in the personnel policy.

Present: Kathleen Clark, President; Michael Boehm, Vice-President; Tom Teske, Secretary; Scott Ikeberry, Treasurer; Melinda Powelson, Personnel; Susan Linner, At Large Member (via Zoom); Taz Walkowich, At Large Member; Pastor Julie Brooks; Pastor Kim Gonia; Guests – Gaylene Szaltzer and Tom Knapp (via Zoom).

Call to Order: 6:01

Opening Devotion/Prayer: Scott Ikeberry, as the treasurer, offered a presentation and prayer on tithing and generosity.

Book Discussion: Pastor Julie Brooks led the discussion of Chapter 3, “Act” in the book, *Leading Faithful Innovation*. The chapter spoke about being open to learning from others rather than just teaching others. Discussion centered around several potential ways to do this, both from the book and from suggestions from others. Tom presented an idea of outreaching to the high school staff, and that topic came up again later.

REPORTS

Treasurer Report: Scott reported that income was markedly lower through July than budgeted, and expenses slightly lower than budgeted. We still have a cash balance of \$45,000. He is “not ready to panic.” His full report is attached.

Pastor Kim: Kim spoke of the success of the recent “Monday Special” for kids and mentioned that work is progressing on the new website. Her full report is attached.

Pastor Julie: Julie reported that the Ministry Connections Retreat was well-received. Her full report is attached.

Trust Fund - Gaylene Szaltzer reported for the team (Shirley Bradsby, Carol Rossini, Emmitt Milton, Steve Zillinger). The fund is made up of a perpetual fund (from a major gift received, presently at \$896,000) and memorials (presently at around \$128,000). The perpetual fund is interest-bearing, and that interest is what is used for special requests, usually at around \$30,000 per year. The council discussed ways in which the Trust Fund and council could work together.

Continuing Business

- It was felt that a council retreat would be beneficial again in February.

New Business:

- Bee-Keeper Tom Knapp, joining Holy Shepherd, is a master bee-keeper who has been doing this for 15 years. He proposed placing 10 to 15 hives on Holy Shepherd property. Questions were raised regarding a for-profit business on our property (he sells some of the honey) and about insurance requirements.

Scott will check on these questions. A motion was made to allow Tom to place hives on the property, dependent on insurance issues, to be reviewed in three months. Seconded and carried.

- The Caffeinated Church Conference in September will be attended by Julie, Melinda, Kathleen and Tom.
- The personnel committee recommended a small change in the Employment Manual, 5.3: “The maximum vacation balance may not exceed 40 hours.” This was a change from 160 hours. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve this change.
- There was discussion regarding the possibility of forming a social team to help build community and especially to provide a mechanism to coordinate fellowship or social or service activities. Further discussion is necessary. This brought up again Tom’s proposal regarding cookies for the high school staff. For now, these types of activities need simply to be cleared with the staff and the master calendar. There was support for the cookie proposal
- A discussion followed about how we can reach out to people in need of transportation. It was suggested that probably an article in Happenings would be helpful. Other possibilities included the use of sign-up genius or possibly a ride coordinator, if it is determined there is a need (possibly Mike).

Closing Prayer: Julie led a prayer with the laying on of hands for Melinda’s surgery.

Adjournment: 8:00

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 10th, 6:00 PM

Impact Statement: Several discussions focused on reaching out to the community, such as the bee-keeper and the cookie proposals.

Approval of minutes:

COUNCIL CORNER: Tuesday, August 13, 2024

The council approved two proposals, one regarding a minor change in the employment manual limiting carry-over vacation time and one granting permission for a new member who is a master bee-keeper to place hives on the north part of the church property. Treasurer Scott Ikeberry reported that, although donations are markedly down for the year through July, he is “not ready to panic.” The trust fund was discussed, and efforts are being made to better coordinate that fund with the council and congregation. Other discussions centered around fellowship and service opportunities and folks in need of transportation.