



VISION COUNCIL
February 23, 2021
5:30 PM
Meeting Minutes

Present: Jackie Buboltz, Steve Schantzen, Chad Carlblom, Carol Lee, Nathan Mork, Nathan Olson, Kari Stattelman, Pastor Lauryl Ivers, Pastor Joe Skogmo and Susie Reitmeier. **Absent:** Catie Hermon, Chris Malecka, LeAnn Mouw;

Call meeting to order - Jackie B.

Devotions – Susie R. (substituted for Chris M. who will devote next time)

Special Guest/Homelessness Solutions Report - MacKenzie Hamm thanked the VC leaders for their support, and updated them about the Homeless Solutions Task Group's progress: FLC space and trained volunteers for sheltering are ready, but so far we haven't needed to provide sheltering at FLC. We provided hotel rooms for 13 households from April – December 2020 for a total of 63 nights at Budget Host; and for 11 households from January – end of February 2021 for 85 nights (during the very cold weather) at Budget Host. We also helped with food, clothing, gas, some rental assistance and utility repair – from our Agape Fund. Our MN DHS grants (\$25,000 in 2020, and \$38,000 for January – June 2021) have paid/are paying for the sheltering at Budget Host, and the owner said he is very grateful for our partnership since this helped him stay in business during the pandemic. We are working with Ministerial Churches, Mahube, and DL Police, and we're identifying obstacles to homeless people's wellbeing, and where community participation and commitment are needed - including finding landowners who'll rent, and case managers/caring people who'll stay involved until issues are resolved. We have heartwarming stories of guests we've helped who are doing well, and are very grateful. VC encouraged MacKenzie and pastors to update the congregation about our progress in this mission.

Consent Agenda / Correspondence / Additions to Agenda -

1. Approval of January 26, 2021 Meeting Minutes
2. Staff Reports: Pastor Joe Skogmo, Pastor Lauryl Ivers, Business Manager Susie Reitmeier
3. Additions to the Agenda – Date of May 16th, 2021 for FLC Annual Meeting
4. Motion to approve consent agenda, with December January 26, 2021 Meeting Minutes, was made by Chad C. and seconded by Nathan O. All approved.

Financial / Treasurer's Report -

1. Chad C. reviewed the Treasurers Report for January 2021, reporting year to date ending balance is \$94,680.15. Income year to date is under anticipated budget by \$15,171.02, and the year to date expenses are under budgeted by \$29,574.36. Susie will follow up on a question about the PPP and tax implications. Motion to approve the Financial / Treasurer's report was made by Nate O. and seconded by Kari S. All approved.

Team Reports -

1. Personnel – Jackie B. reported that the new Budget is Personnel's focus now; in addition to the Parental Leave Policy, and a new recommendation on Janitorial Position.
2. Building & Grounds – no report.
3. Stewardship – no report.

4. Restart - Steve S. reported that in-person services are not at capacity, and we will continue with in-person 10:45 Worship, and Lenten Wednesday 12:05 services. During Holy Week it was recommended to allow two in-person services each day on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. After Easter, in-person services will be re-evaluated. Meetings in the building for wellbeing are allowed, and FLC small groups are being considered, but outside groups are not allowed yet. Our custodian, Paul, is willing to clean after these meetings. Pastor Joe addressed complaints about not returning to full services in this month's Newsletter. Children's and Youth in-person faith formation classes are beginning in hybrid format.
5. Advertising and Marketing – no report.
6. Social Justice/Creation Care – see Unfinished Business.

Unfinished Business

1. Becker County Homeless Solutions Group -see Guest Speaker report above.
2. First Lutheran Church's Covenant to Care for Creation – discussion included questions about pushback and surveying the congregation, whether the Covenant would bind FLC to certain actions – especially for Buildings and Grounds, and recognition that the Covenant is collaborative and advisory. Motion was made by Nathan O. for VC sign the Covenant, seconded by Nathan M. and all approved.

New Business

1. Janitorial Recommendation from Personnel – Personnel Committee recommended employing Paul Heisler and Patty Waller rather than hiring a Cleaning service. (They have been cleaning for us, but as part of a Cleaning service, from which Paul has retired.) Discussion was held – the church purchases janitorial supplies, this change will result in a small savings for us, Susie will double check FICA. Steve S. moved to approve the recommendation, and Chad C. seconded. All approved.
2. Pastors' Housing Allowance Requests – Chad C. moved to approve the requests from Pastors Joe and Lauryl, and Steve S. seconded the motion. All approved.
3. FLC Annual Meeting date – discussion was held about preparations and developing Plan A – hold an outdoor meeting, and also Plan B, and asking the Restart Team to review the plans. Steve S. moved that May 16th be set for the FLC Annual Meeting, and Kari S. seconded. All approved.
4. Budget discussion will be on next month's agenda.
5. Pastor Lauryl informed VC that the Synod Assembly will meet virtually on May 22nd, delegates must have individual email addresses, and all Resolutions must be submitted by March 22nd.

Meeting Adjourned - Motion to adjourn was made by Chad C. and seconded by Nathan O. All approved.

Upcoming Dates:

- VC Exec Meeting - March 16 at 4:00 pm
- VC Meeting - March 23 at 5:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Lauryl Ivers (for Catie Herman, Secretary)