

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
Governing Board Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2020

Meeting Attendees:

Dave Webb, Chair
Deb Kohen, Vice Chair
Elizabeth Kohen, Treasurer
Maria Miller, Secretary
Kristen Goligowski
Chriss Latterell
Lynn Mears
Lynette Palmgren
Pastor Renee Patterson

Guests:

Pastor Brice Bloxham
Sister Tashina Good

Absent:

- **Mini Devotional** (Pastor Brice) Matthew 20:1-16
- **Opening Prayer** (Pastor Brice)
- **Recognition emails**
- **Approval of July Meeting Minutes** (Maria Miller)
The minutes from the August meeting were approved without revisions.
Moved by Elizabeth Kohen, seconded by Deb Kohen.
- **Financial Report** (Elizabeth Kohen)
The August financial report was reviewed and approved.
Moved by Chriss Latterell, seconded by Kristen Goligowski.

Summary:

- We ended August with a surplus of \$4,047, while we budgeted for a deficit of \$28,144, for a favorable variance of \$32,191.
- At the end of August, we had \$478,828 in cash. This is up \$179,296 (including PPP funds of \$130,300) from the beginning of the year amount. The loan has not been officially forgiven yet, so it is shown on balance sheet.
- Giving income was \$4,659 less than anticipated budget; however, overall income was \$1,572 greater than anticipated due to August preschool tuition, which was not in the budget.
- Increased expenses for computer consulting, as our network did not have proper hardware to live-stream.
- Custodial costs increased due to purchase of supplies including hand sanitizers, new disinfectants, and restroom supplies. This will be a trend for the future.
- Jilene received three grants for \$8,500 each for preschool expenses.
- We are purchasing an ionizer for the sanctuary to clean the air; cost approx. \$4,200.

➤ **2020 Approved Budget Held Expenses**

- Parking lot lights (\$5k) & HVAC repair (\$14k) -- MOVING FORWARD
- Flooring for Shepherd's Hall: \$20k (on hold)
- Preschool expansion: \$20k (in 2021 budget, perhaps in fall 2021)
- Worship and music: \$4k (waiting for estimates for needed improvements)

❖ Staffing compensation initiative & Fall stewardship conversation:

- Fall Stewardship theme: *"20/20 Hindsight: What This Pandemic Has Taught Us About Being the Church."*
- Starts Sunday, October 18 -- Sermon will cover the staff compensation support initiative.
- A letter from the GB will be sent out to congregation prior to this to explain what it is and to let people know that the matching fund is secured.
- We are building for long term stability with the long-term goal to have an Associate Pastor in our annual budget structure. Our goal is for long-term funding by being "strategic and forward thinking" (per our treasurer, Elizabeth).

▪ **In-person worship conversation with Sarah Koepp (prerecorded)**

- Sarah, a nurse manager at the M Health Fairview Hospital, and Pastor Renee had a discussion on the pandemic and how to prepare for upcoming worship services together.
- Sarah pointed out that her hospital has had plentiful supplies and space for Covid cases.
- She emphasized high risk exposure vs low risk exposure. Masking and safe distancing are key for low risk exposure.
- She would feel comfortable with indoor worship with following guidelines of no singing, no prayers aloud, altered communion distribution, no passing the peace through touch, groups staying in their family bubble.
- GB is in agreement to move forward with planning for in sanctuary worship to start in November.
- Our plan would require an online or call-in reservation system of max. 120 people.
- Need plenty of education of the congregation. If you have any congestion symptoms STAY HOME!
- Ushers and pastoral staff to control flow, masking, and seating arrangements.

▪ **Other discussion:**

- Trunk 'n Treat: Chriss L. is working with Pastor Brice to plan this Halloween activity. Participants will be gloved, masked, and find ways to distribute treats to children in a safe manner. Planning is underway.

▪ **Closing Prayer** (Sister Tashina)