

**Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church**  
**Governing Board Meeting Minutes**  
**January 19, 2021 @ 6:30pm - online (Zoom)**

=====

<u>BOARD MEMBERS:</u>	<u>TERM DATES</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>	<u>GUESTS:</u>
Dave Webb, Chair	2018/19; 2020/21	X	- Pastor Brice Bloxham - Sister Tashina Good - Sally Peters, in-coming Board member
Deb Kohen, Vice Chair	2015/16; 2017/18; 2019/20;	X	
Elizabeth Kohen, Treasurer	2018/19; 2020/21	X	
Maria Miller, Secretary	2020/21	X	
Kristen Goligowski, At- Large	2020/21	X	
Chriss Latterell, At-Large	2016/17; 2018/19; 2020/21	X	
Lynn Mears, At-Large	2017/18; 2019/20	X	
Lynette Palmgren, At-Large	2013/14; 2015/16; 2017/18; 2019/20	X	
Pastor Renee Patterson		X	

- **Opening Prayer & Mini Devotional** (Pastor Renee) Mark 1:14-20
  
- **GB Electronic Meeting Continuing Resolution:**

State law requires that we have a provision on our records until we can make a change to our Constitution to permit us to have virtual business meetings. This was not brought to light until recently, so we will add this Constitutional change to our agenda for next year’s annual meeting.

WHEREAS, Jesus states, “For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them” (Matthew 18:20); and

WHEREAS, Minnesota law requires a provision to be in an organization’s bylaws for a meeting to be held electronically; and

WHEREAS, Shepherd of the Hills Evangelical Lutheran Church’s bylaws neither restrict nor provide provision for meetings to be held electronically; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that Shepherd of the Hills Evangelical Lutheran Church authorize electronic meetings in compliance with state law by presenting this resolution to the Saint Paul Area Synod for record alongside our constitution and bylaws. To be retroactive beginning April 2020 and thenceforth.

  - Motion to adopt this virtual meeting resolution by Chriss Latterell, second by Lynette Palmgren, Board approved.
  
- **Recognition emails**

- **Approval of Meeting Minutes** (Maria Miller)

- Motion to approve December minutes by Elizabeth Kohen, seconded by Deb Kohen, Board approved.

- **Financial Report** (Elizabeth Kohen)

- The December financial report was reviewed and approved.  
Motion to accept December financial report by Chriss Latterell, seconded by Deb Kohen, Board approved.

- 2020 Financial report review

- Discussion:

- YTD end surplus of approx. \$28,000, which is considered a “comfortable” place to be by the finance team.
- We have received \$74,757 for our 20/20 Hindsight Special Appeal. That is currently not on income statement.
- Total income was \$75,467 more than budget. Contributions income is \$84,221 ahead of budget, including the PPP loan, which was moved from liabilities to income.  
Excluding the \$130,300 from PPP, giving would have been \$46,079 behind budget.  
This will be pointed out at the meeting, so that congregation is made aware that giving was down, but thanks to the PPP loan, we were able to get through.
- Total December expenses were \$115,058 more than budget.
- Outreach: \$5k Ralph Reeder, \$5k Holy Hammers, \$5K BegaKwaBega, \$15k Open Hands
- Property Improvements of \$53k: (roof repair \$29k, HVAC \$6k, HVAC in sanctuary \$4k, water fountain \$1k, lights in the parking lot \$12k)
- Total annual expenses were \$60,765 less than budget.

- 2021 Proposed budget review

- Elizabeth shared the Financial packet for 2021 that will be emailed to congregation prior to the annual meeting for Board review and approval.

- Motion to approve 2021 proposed budget review Lynn Mears, seconded by Lynette Palmgren, Board approved.

- **Staff Reports**

- Pastor Renee: Online worship will continue through January. If the metrics of infection numbers stay below the set numbers, we may try indoor worship again in February. This will be monitored week by week. Stay tuned...

- **Annual Meeting Plan** (Pastor Renee)

- The Welcoming Statement: The process of this statement started in the summer of 2019. The Governing Board at that time sanctioned a committee that worked on expanding our welcoming statement. A survey of the statement was crafted and widely accepted by the congregation,

listening and educational sessions were offered, and the statement was approved by the current Governing Board. After sending this out to the congregation in the Annual Meeting Agenda prior to the upcoming Annual Meeting, there have been a few members who have expressed opinions on discomfort with the wording. The board had a lengthy conversation around this and how we want to move forward with this conversation with our congregation. The Board created three options:

1. Go forth with original plan.
2. To ask the Welcoming Team to consider alternate wording as “statement #2” at the last hour to present to the congregation at the Annual Meeting.
3. Put this vote on hold to offer more listening sessions and discussions and have it brought back to vote at later time.

Pros and cons of each option were discussed. The Board overall feels that the current Welcoming Statement should be moved forward as is. The Welcoming Committee has put much time and energy into this topic, and we felt that due diligence has been met.

▪ **Annual Meeting Power Point slides**

- Zoom meeting training to congregation members will be offered three times in the week prior to the Annual Meeting.
- Pastor Renee asked Board to review the slides and contact her with questions.

▪ **Other business:**

Looking for an additional member on the finance team. Board members are asked to bring forth any names of people that may be interested. Maria will post a help wanted post in next month’s newsletter.

**Closing Prayer** (Pastor Renee)

Next meeting: February 16 @ 6:30pm on Zoom

Submitted by: Maria Miller