

**Minutes for Luther Park Board of Directors Meeting  
January 15, 2009, at Trinity Lutheran Church, Eau Claire**

**Board Members In Attendance:** Pastor Michael Wollman, Pastor Leila Haight, JoDeen Forsyth, Don Moats, Brenda Thalacker, Amanda Rasner, Steve Kolden, Stan Buchanan Pastor Jim Page and Pastor John Ashland.

**Ex-Officio Members in Attendance:** Mary Toufar Sherm Toufar

**Members Absent:** Dale Kringle and Eileen Christopherson

**Call To Order:** The meeting was called to order by board president, Pastor Michael Wollman, at 7:15 p.m. following the committee meetings and snacks provided by Pastor Jim.

**Devotions:** Pastor Jim led the group in a devotional based on Exodus 10 and emphasizing that God changes people through other people. Devotions ended with prayer.

**Directors' Reports:**

**Sherm's** report was emailed to board members earlier in the week and copies were also available at the meeting. This was his first report as Interim Executive Director and summarized his Executive Director activities for the month of December and his goals for January. Sherm stated that \$20,900 has been received under the terms of the challenge grant. It has been submitted for matching but is not yet reflected on our income. Sherm asked for clarification on what he will be evaluated on during his year as Interim Executive Director. The president stated that the evaluation process will be determined at the February board meeting.

**Mary's** report was also emailed earlier to all board members. A question was asked about her role in the planning of the 2012 National Youth Gathering and Mary clarified that she is not part of the Youth Gathering Planning Committee, but rather that she has been invited to be part of a group exploring strategies to avoid the national gathering from impacting outdoor ministries in a negative way.

**Committee Reports:**

**Program**—Mary reported that the committee has begun working on the summer Bible study. After some homework, Day 1 was discussed at tonight's committee meeting and nearly completed. The group will meet at 5 pm, before the February 19, board meeting to finish day 1 and do day 2. On March 5, the committee will meet at 10:30 am at Trinity Lutheran to work on Days 3 and 4. Day 5 will be completed during the committee meeting prior to the Mar. 19 board meeting.

**Property**—Don reported that things are going well. The seasonal cleaning of Shalom and Covenant are complete and cleaning of the cabins has begun. The walk in cooler is being watched, because it was not working properly during the recent sub zero weather. Volunteer groups have been scheduled to stain the exterior of several buildings in April and June. Pastor John asked about heating problems in some of the Shalom bedrooms and Don said that they are aware of the problem and are looking into what can be done.

**Finance**—Written Income/Expense reports for 2008 were passed out. Brenda summarized the report pointing out that most expenses were held at or below budget and that the year's income was actually up from 2007, but less than budgeted.

**Motion** made by Stan, seconded by Don to accept the financial report as printed.

Discussion followed about the possibility of terminating our contract with consultant, Dick Sayther. Our contract runs through July 2009, with \$5075 still owed. The board president stated that according to the terms of the contract, we probably wouldn't save much by terminating now and Sherm

said he felt that “if” we follow the consultant’s advice we will get our money’s worth. Pastor Jim asked about the Way Club being more than \$45,000 below our budget, but Stan pointed out that it was also almost \$40,000 more than 2007. Sherm and Mary added that 34 new Way Club donors were a direct result of the Every Congregation visits during 2008.

Motion to accept the financial report **Passed**.

**Minutes and Approval:** Don made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 15, Special board meeting and the December 18, regular board meeting as emailed to all members. The second came from Steve. **Motion Passed.** The president stated that the contract between the board and the Interim Executive Director, created on December 26, will stand in place of minutes for that meeting.

#### **Old Business:**

**First Lutheran Foundation Loan Status** in light of 2008 shortfall—Sherm reported that our agreement with First Lutheran Foundation allows our budget to be unbalanced for 1 year out of the 3, so there is no problem for now.

#### **New Business:**

**Budget Recommendation to the Annual Meeting--** The finance committee showed printed copies of the budget as it will be presented at the annual meeting. Don moved/Stan seconded a **Motion** to accept the proposed budget for presentation at the annual meeting. **Motion passed.**

**Other Annual Meeting preparation—**The president briefed the board on how he intends to conduct business at the annual meeting. Things discussed included the possible need to have a microphone on the floor, putting a time limit on speakers, making sure we have the name and home church for each speaker, the need to have paper ballots available if needed, and parliamentary procedure.

**Thanks to Stan Buchanan—**Stan is completing 2 terms on the board. The president thanked him for his service and his ability to make the budget easier to understand with comparisons and graphs. The board joined the president in a round of applause for Stan’s service to Luther Park.

Pastor John requested that sometime in the new year, we need to discuss the demise of congregational loyalty to member Bible Camps and how we react to this in a way that still keeps our camp program strong.

**Next Meeting:** The next board meeting will be held on February 19, 2009, at Trinity Lutheran in Eau Claire. The program committee will begin at 5 p.m. and the other committees at 6:15. The full board meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. The Luther Park Annual Meeting is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on January 24, 2009, in the Luther Park dining hall. Board members who can, will be available to visit and answer questions beginning at 9:00 a.m.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Steve/Brenda to adjourn at 8:50 pm.  
The meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
JoDeen Forsyth, secretary