

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

of the Association of
LUTHER PARK BIBLE CAMP, INC.
Chetek, WI 54728

October 21, 2012 ~ 3:30 p.m., at the Camp

(Unapproved Minutes)

*[Secretary's Note: Names appearing the first time in these minutes will also include the delegate's congregation and location. When the same name appears subsequently, it will not include congregation. **Motions made, seconded and carried appear in bold print.**]*

WELCOME ~ 3:37 p.m. Board President Christopher Kamrath (*Central Lutheran, Chippewa Falls*) called the meeting to order with words of welcome and thanks to all who have gathered for the meeting.

DEVOTIONS ~ presented by Site Director Jonathan Schack, which began with the song, *Here I Am, Lord*. Jon recalled a number of "call stories" in the scriptures (Samuel, Jeremiah, Elijah), and offered that God continues to call his faithful in remarkable and unsolicited ways. Jon gave thanks that God continues to call Luther Park, as well as individuals, to a sense of holy play.

QUORUM ~ The Chair looked around the room and visually determined that we had more than the necessary quorum of 39 voting delegates present. [**Approximately 66 voting delegates were signed in at the registration table.**]

INTRODUCTIONS ~ Board President Kamrath then asked that the Board members who were present to introduce themselves indicating their congregation of membership. Those present were: Kay Moen-Urseth (*Pine Creek Lutheran, Sand Creek*), Steve Kolden (*Our Savior's, Menomonie*), Alan Buresh (*University Lutheran, Eau Claire*), Michele Ziegeweid (*Christ, Arcadia*), Linda Euneau (*First, Hawyard*), Tom Wagener (*Immanuel, Strum*), Bert Schultz (*Hope, Ladysmith*), Dale Kringle (*Our Savior's [Campia], Rice Lake*), Brenda Thalacker (*First, Eau Claire*), Joel Olsen (*Our Saviour's, Chippewa Falls*). Ben Ahles-Iverson (*Taylor Lutheran, Taylor*) was unable to be present.

Staff members present included Interim Executive Director Rev. Craig Corbin, Site Director Jon Schack, Development Secretary Diana Thompson, Property Manager Peter Johnson, and Food Service Director Heidi Johnson.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ~ It was moved by Steve Kolden and seconded by Norma Leinenberger (*Grace, Eau Claire*) to accept the Agenda as presented. Carried.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 2012 MINUTES ~ It was moved by Dale Kringle (and by Brenda Thalacker), and seconded by Peg Kolden (*Our Savior's, Menomonie*) to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2012 Annual Meeting, as published. Carried.

REPORTS

- A. **Board of Directors** (refer to page 9 of Annual Report). Kamrath highlighted the bullet points in the printed report. He then called upon Don Moats (*St. John's, Alma*), engaged by the Board, to speak to the process of receiving and screening applicants for the Executive Ministry Director, the search for which is currently underway.

80th Anniversary Trivia. President Kamrath explained that in order to lift up the good news of Luther Park celebrating its 80th anniversary of ministry this year, he would break into the regular order of the day to ask a series of Trivia questions on this theme, and award appropriate prizes. *First question asked for the approximate cost of purchasing the Director's Home in 1965 [it sold in 2012 for \$133,000]. Answer: it was purchased for \$12,500. Jean Moats (St. John's, Alma) had the closest answer.*

B. Interim Executive Director (refer to page 10 in Annual Report). Rev. Craig Corbin repeatedly lifted up the theme of gratitude to individuals and congregations for their heart of support for Luther Park, and to the staff for maintaining and advancing the Camp's ministries. Corbin also reminded delegates that with the privilege of corporate ownership comes responsibility for advocating support within local congregations. He also counseled the whole corporation to be patient with the process to obtain a new Executive Ministry Director.

Board President Chris Kamrath presented a large mounted photograph of a beautiful Luther Park campfire to Craig Corbin as a memento of his tenure as interim executive director. Kamrath further thanked Rev. Corbin for his significant and oft times difficult work during the interim. There was a round of applause to signify the Corporation's appreciation, as well.

80th Anniversary Trivia: In 1966, what was the cost for one week for a youth to attend Luther Park. Answer: \$20. Darren Faulk (*Christ Lutheran, Menomonie.*)

C. Site Director Jonathan Schack (refer to page 11 in Annual Report). Jon lifted up several positive features of the recent 80th Anniversary celebration this past September. He also noted that a long-standing tradition was revived this year with the scheduling of *two* work-week-ends. And for 2013, May 10-11 will be another work week-end. Volunteer labor enables valuable improvements to be made, when staff is committed elsewhere in our ministry. Thank you!

80th Anniversary Trivia: 1933 was the first summer campers came to Luther Park; what was the first year Luther Park hosted 1000 campers? Answer: 1969. Theresa Veraguth (*Zion, Galesville.*)

D. Program Committee, Rev. Bert Schultz (refer to page 12 of Annual Report), underscored the printed report with gratitude to God for all who participate in and made possible the Luther Park ministries, and anticipates many more such blessings in 2013.

Question from the floor: An explanation was sought for the present vacancy of the Program Coordinator. Answer: she was released early from her contract (it was expiring in December); and the position is provided for in the 2013 budget.

80th Anniversary Trivia: Luther Park has a tradition of successful Quilt Auctions for fund raisers. What was the most expensive quilt at the 2012 Quilt Auction? Answer: \$1,100. Cheryl Johnson (*Peace, Menomonie.*)

E. Property Committee, Tom Wagener (refer to page 13 of Annual Report). Verbally highlighted the written report, noting the large number of infrastructure projects which have been completed. Announced the 2013 work week-end for May 10-11.

80th Anniversary Trivia. 2007 was the year in which the largest number of youths participated in retreats. What was that number? Answer: 400 youth. Margaret Hunstead (*Grace Lutheran, Eau Claire.*)

F. Finance Committee, Brenda Thalacker (refer to page 14 in Annual Report). While some good news about the state of finances has been announced today, we have found ourselves again falling behind at the end of the summer. Summer expenses typically exceed income; and this makes the fall months particularly nerve-wrenching.

Brenda entertained a question about “Simply Giving.” It could be available to Luther Park donors, but there are other similar vehicles available as well. Luther Point staff would have such information.

Theresa Veraguth offered a suggestion to raise \$10,000. Number 145 envelopes with numbers 1 through 145. Let donors chose their envelope (and amount of gift ranging from \$1.00 to \$145.00). Collectively all envelopes would total about \$10,000.

80th Anniversary Trivia. How many of the number of current board members attended camp here as a youth? Answer: _____ Donna Kringle (*Our Savior’s [Campia], Rice Lake.*)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 1. Luther Woods** The January 2012 Annual Meeting authorized the Board of Directors to list up to 130 acres of Luther Woods for sale. It has been listed; there have been a couple of inquiries; there have been no offers.
- 2. Covenant Letter** Secretary of the Board Joel Olsen spoke to the matter of the Covenant letter and form. When the new Constitution was ratified on April 21, 2012, the announcement was made that a Covenant form would be sent to each constituent congregation asking for an indication of that congregation’s ongoing partnership with Luther Park ministries. It has been the hope of the Board that the matter of the Covenant and continuing support would be determined by congregations at their *annual meetings*. With that in mind, the six-month return time has been extended to the end of February 2013.

As of this meeting date, it appears about 62 Covenants have been returned, and 78 are yet to be received. Of those returned, none have indicated they intended to disassociate with Luther Park and terminate any partnership with our ministries.

80th Anniversary Trivia. Luther Park conducts a Vacation Bible School ministry off-campus, and on-site at a number of congregations. In 2002, we served the largest numbers of VBS students. What was that number? Answer – 1500! [Gina Cooler](#) (*Hope, Ladysmith.*)

OPEN QUESTIONS ~ there were none at this time

NEW BUSINESS

A. Endowment Fund Committee Member Election ~ Nominees were called for three times; the only name offered was that of Arlan Bergquist (*Our Saviour's, Chippewa Falls.*) **It was moved by Steve Kolden and seconded by Linda Euneau to direct the secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for Arlan Bergquist. Carried.** The secretary did as directed.

B. Election of Board Members ~ President Kamrath called upon Board member Tom Wagener of the Nominating Committee to present the slate of nominees. They are listed on pages 15-16 of the Annual Report.

For Cluster One – **Dale Kringle** (incumbent). For Cluster Two – **Chris Kamrath** (incumbent). For Cluster Three – **Judy Solberg** (*Kings Valley Lutheran, Osseo*) and **Julie Carr** (*First, Eau Claire*). For Cluster Four – **Tom Wagener** (incumbent). There were no additional nominations for any cluster.

A printed ballot was distributed. Elected were: **Dale Kringle, Chris Kamrath, Julie Carr and Tom Wagener.**

80th Anniversary Trivia. Of the current Board of twelve members, how many have had children work at Luther Park? Answer: *Three* board members have each had *two* children work at Luther Park. [Winner](#) _____

C. Nominating Committee for 2013 ~ The Chair of the meeting announced that the Nominating Committee is composed of four Board members whose terms will expire in the ensuing year, as well as one additional individual from each cluster. Board members whose terms will expire in 2014 are: Pr. Bert Schultz, Kay Moen-Urseth, Pr. Al Buresh, Michele Ziegeweid.

Delegates volunteering for the Nominating Committee included: Cluster 1: **Rev. Lee Haight** (*Long Lake Lutheran, Sarona*); Cluster 2: **LouAnn Olsen** (*Our Saviour's, Chippewa Falls*); Cluster 3: **Peg Kolden**; Cluster 4: **Rev. Anna Sorenson** (*French Creek Lutheran, Ettrick.*)

It was moved by Dale Kringle, and seconded by Steve Kolden to direct the secretary to cast a unanimous ballot accepting these volunteers. Carried. The Secretary immediately cast the ballot.

D. 2013 Proposed Budget. **It was moved by Arvin Solsaa** (*Our Savior's, Menomonie*) **and seconded by Don Moats to put the proposed budget on the floor for discussion.**

The proposed Budget is printed on page 42 of the Annual Report. Board Treasurer Brenda Thalacker presented the detailed budget, supplemented by power-point projection.

Question for clarification: Regarding payment of loan to the Luther Park Endowment Fund, at this time we are making payments of interest only, not principal.

Question regarding unpaid bills to date. Answer: approximately \$60,000 in unpaid bills at this time.

Call for the Question. **The 2013 Proposed Budget passed on an unopposed voice vote.**

Steve Kolden, Board Vice-president, offered words of commendation for the fine and tireless work that Board treasurer Brenda Thalacker has given to Luther Park during her two terms (six years) on the Board. Applause.

Interim Director Rev. Craig Corbin also gave words of commendation for Marcel Snow, Site Director at Luther Point Bible Camp, who, during the interim period, has done a tremendous amount of work for Luther Park. Applause.

80th Anniversary Trivia. Of the current twelve Board members, how many have previously served Luther Park as a staff member or youth counselor? Answer: One – Chris Kamrath. Mike Malone (*Trinity, Eau Claire.*)

Announcement: Arvin Solsaa, member of the Endowment Fund, noted that the Fund does much to support the ministries of Luther Park, and therefore is encouraging congregations to consider giving to the Endowment Fund, as well as to the operating funds.

ADJOURNMENT Moved by Dale Kringle, and seconded by Barbara Solsaa (*Our Savior's, Menomonie*) to adjourn, at 5:45 p.m. Carried. The delegates stood, joined hands, and prayed our Lord's Prayer.

BENEDICTION was given by Rev. Leslie Walck (*Colfax Lutheran, Colfax.*)

Many stayed for a “soup-sandwich-and salad bar” supper prepared by Heidi Johnson and her kitchen staff. Dessert bars were provided by the Board members and/or their spouses.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Joel Olsen, Secretary of the Board.