

**Minutes for Luther Park Board of Directors Meeting
May 21, 2009, at Trinity Lutheran, Eau Claire**

Board Members In Attendance: Pastor Leila (Lee) Haight, Brenda Thalacker, Don Moats, Amanda Rasner, Steve Kolden, Pastor John Ashland, Eileen Christopherson, JoDeen Forsyth Pastor Jim Page, and Pastor Michael Wollman

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

Members Absent: Bill Jenson, Dale Kringle

Call To Order:

The meeting was called to order by board president, Steve Kolden, at 7:15 pm. following the committee meetings at 6:15 and snacks provided by Pastor John Ashland.

Devotions:

Mary reflected on Deuteronomy 6:6-9 stressing that our modern way of life has become disconnected. We are missing the generational sharing of faith that is very important to our youth. There is a gap that we need to reconnect with and Bible Camp is one way we can do this. Devotions ended with prayer.

Board Bylaws/Policy Review-

The president presented a handout showing a sample board meeting agenda with the use of "consent agenda items" and another handout with some board job descriptions. Steve will try to write some Board Job Descriptions for us to consider. Brenda will work on a description for the Finance Committee and Sherm will work on descriptions for the Board Development/Fund Development Committees.

Minutes and Approval:

Amanda made a **motion** to accept the minutes of the April 18, 2009, board meeting as previously e-mailed. Brenda made the second. **Motion carried.**

Directors' Reports:

Mary reported that she is confident that the summer program will be successful. The summer staff and the Bible Study will be good. Our schedule for VBS is full for every week except week one. Staff installation will be held at the New Hope and Sand Creek congregations on June 7, as part of a special month long drive those congregations are conducting for Luther Park. The bad news is that our registration numbers are still low. As of today, May 21, there were 732 registered campers. Mary's full report was emailed to board members prior to the meeting.

Sherm's monthly activities report and the annual fund additions for April were emailed to board members before the meeting. At the meeting he read his response to his quarterly evaluation recently completed by the executive members of the board.

Program Committee Report—

Amanda reported that Luther Park has received a grant of \$500 to support and promote Fair Trade coffee and chocolate.

Property Committee Report-

Don reported that the new pool drains, necessary to comply with new regulations, were not as expensive as was first anticipated. It totaled only about \$170 and now the pool is ready for the summer. The camp truck needed some repairs totaling about \$1200. There is only one cabin still needing new shingles and that will probably be completed in the fall. There were lots of good volunteers this spring and the camp is ready for the summer season.

Financial Report:

Brenda explained the new report format which the financial committee, Rick, and Sherm came up with when they met a few weeks ago. Board members liked the easier to understand layout. After some discussion and some clarification from Mike, it was decided to add a section to show the progress of the Larson matching gifts money. This month's report shows that we are making up some ground on our deficit. There was more income than expense and the camp debt has been reduced since January. **Motion** by Jim, second by Don to accept the written financial report. **Carried.**

Old Business:

Replicating the Conference Pastor's Meeting-

Pastor Mike Pancoast, had indicated an interest in facilitating some conference pastor's meetings, but he will be leaving soon for a new call in North Dakota. Mary and Dale will continue working on this.

Update from Don & Steve on meeting with Matching Gifts donor—

The following report was emailed to board members on 5/19/09:

On Tuesday, May 12th Sherm Tofar, Steve Kolden, and Don Moats met with Doug Larson and his son to receive clarification on the intent of their Matching Fund Donation to Luther Park.

- *They do not want donations and matching gifts used to pay off last year's \$35,000 operating loan or unpaid bills as we did this first quarter. They want that gift used to reduce principal debt only. We told them we plan on having that money back for its intended purpose by the end of this year.*
- *Donations and matching gifts are to be used to pay down the principal on the Sterling Bank Debt. The monies are not to be used for projects.*
- *The Larson's intent was for the first \$150,000 of donations and matching gifts (\$300,000) go to principal debt retirement. The last \$50,000 in donations and matching gifts (\$100,000) would then go into the Endowment Fund for Camper Scholarships.*
- *An individual may donate \$1,000 or more to be matched and designate their donation to be used for camperships for a particular Church. The matching gifts will go for general camper scholarships.*
- *The Endowment Committee will set up the criteria to be used in determining who/ how/when/how much/etc. for the use of Scholarship monies.*

Eau Claire Fundraiser updates-

Insty Prints donated posters that were sent to all Luther Park congregations. Brenda and the Thrivent representative have appeared on local TV to promote the May 27th event. The board thanked Brenda for her major part in organizing this event. Brenda said that she has received a lot of support and co-operation and if the event is successful, it could become an annual thing.

Northwest Synod Office relocation to Luther Park—

There was nothing new to report. If approved at the Synod Assembly, the move would probably take place this fall.

Continued conversations with Luther Point-June 5th—

Another meeting is scheduled in Amery on June 4.

New Business:

There was no new business.

Next Meeting: The next board meeting will be held on Thursday, June 18, at Luther Park, beginning with supper with the campers at 5:30 and committee meetings at 6:15 p.m. The full board will meet at 7:00. Steve will give the devotions and Brenda will provide a snack.

Closed Session (Board only)

The board met in closed session to consider options and share thoughts about what is best for Luther Park's future. No action was taken.

Adjournment:

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

JoDeen Forsyth, secretary