

Vision Team Meeting Minutes
August 8, 2022

Present In-Person: Pastor PJ Malin, Greg Tvrdik, Del Mari Runck, Nancy Doebbert, Jen Sundby, Bruce Belseth, Darla Harstad

Absent: Lucas Kosters

Opening Devotion and Prayer – Bruce Belseth

Secretary Report from the July 2022 meeting.

Motion – to approve the secretary report. Bruce (M) Nancy (S) Motion Carried

Treasures Report:

Discussion regarding current state of budget year-to-date income has seen 10.9% increase while expenses have shown an 16.4% increase. A decline during the summer months has been seen historically. Greg T indicated that we have received \$124,180 payment of the Employee Retention Credit (ERC) from the IRS. He is continuing to work with Brian Ulrich of Congregation Consulting Services out of St. Cloud for an IRS error for the first quarter 2021 which we were paid \$6,770 instead of \$66,887 or roughly 10% of what we should have received.

Motion – to approve the treasurer’s report. Neal (M) Lucas (S) Motion Carried

Board Reports:

Finance & Facilities: Welcomed a new board member, Chuck Thompson. Reviewed finances year to date, building fund and Outdoor Worship Progress. Stewardship theme to be determined mid-October, budgeting process for 2023 to begin in September. Discussed request for Labyrinth.

Communications: met August 3rd and discussed ongoing migration to Planning Center. Once more data has been uploaded, Molly will come to a VT meeting to demonstrate the APP. Discussed upcoming events and planning related to 150th Anniversary celebration, Truck or Treat, Community Thanksgiving and Christmas events and outreach to the community and our committee’s responsibility related to communications. Greg T attended and provided an overview of the current Communications budget explaining the difference between fixed items and the ones that the board may be able to impact/control. We discussed the need to create a social media team that could provide vision and support to Molly

Worship: The next meeting is scheduled for August 11th.

Learning: Next meeting August 16th

Serving: Met August 3rd and discussed the need for an updated Phone Tree, reviewed purpose of the board and who are points of contact for boards. Discussed having various ministries talk to the Serving Board and identified the goals for 2022/2023. Discussed budget and Discretionary Benevolence for 2023, more discussion to follow.

Board Focus and Engagement:

Pastor PJ led a discussion related to how the Board are feeling now that more clarity has been provided. The consensus of the VT members is that it has been helpful. A future plan will incorporate Board goals that will align with the overall goals for the church and its mission.

Financial Strategy During Current Inflation:

Pastor PJ led a discussion related to how we might be able to support our members in this time of inflation. For some, it is a hardship for others, maybe not as significant. He was asking if there was something we might be able to provide as a resource to those who may be financially impacted. Ideas suggested were 1. Offer Financial Peace University again, 2. Compile a list of community resources (Love INC, United Way, etc.), 3. Highlight Project Neighbor on a Sunday morning. Another idea was to identify, through a change in the cadence of giving, members who may be experiencing a personal struggle that we may be able to reach out to and offer support.

150th Year Celebration:

Pastor PJ identified that there is additional planning needed for the Celebration Sunday, September 11. Plans are in place related to the brunch being served, and Shoes for Schools project, and worship services. Additional discussion related to video highlighting the 150 years, “fun” activities for kids that could be planned that morning, give away item that highlights the anniversary, volunteer sign up needed for that Sunday. Various VT members will work on coordinating these items within their Boards.

Motion: - to approve up to \$10,000 of the ERC money to be directed towards the budget for the 150th Anniversary Celebration expenses. Nancy (M) Del Mari (S) Motion Carried.

Nominating Committee:

Del Mari outlined the plan for the nominating committee. Elections are held each October at a special congregational meeting. This will be the first year that the Boards will align with the bylaws that includes each Board having three persons elected to the Board with one of them being the VT representative. Each VT members is tasked with obtaining the names of two current board members who are willing to have their name placed on the ballot for two-year terms and, if the current VT member is either no eligible to run again or has decided to not run again, provide a name of someone on their current board who is willing to have their name placed as the VT representative for that Board. If no one on the current board is interested or willing to serve as the VT representative, the nominating committee will be tasked with finding someone for that position. The nominating committee needs the information by August 18th. The ballot will include three names from each board, one as the VT representative and the name of the new vice chair for a total of 16 names.

October Congregational Meeting Date & Communication:

Jen is working with Greg T and Molly on communications to the congregation for the Special Congregational meeting scheduled for October 16th. The meeting will include a first vote on the proposed changes to the bylaws and election of the Board, VT, and Vice Chair. This led into a discussion about timing of the election for Board, VT, and Vice Chair. The current bylaws indicate this election is held every two years in even numbered years during a special congregational meeting and the fact that all VT members are elected for the same two-year terms. The Bylaws subcommittee will review and make recommendations for a change in the bylaws for the next VT meeting.

Call Committee Update:

Del Mari will serve as the Call Committee/VT Liaison. She will be away in September at which time Jen will serve in that role. The Call Committee co-chairs are Haley Kalina and Barb Golden. They have requested the position descriptions for the two positions so that they can continue their work on the necessary documents required for the call process.

Closing Prayer:

Pastor PJ led us with prayer for concerns identified by staff, for the Call Committee, for the VT and for the church.

Reminders:

Next VT meeting is Monday, September 12 at 7:00 PM

Appreciation Dinner is scheduled for Wednesday, August 17 at 5:30 PM. Attendees will be able to sign up through a link in an upcoming E-News.

Synod Road Trip Visit – Monday, August 22 at 5:30 PM

150th Year Celebration – Sunday September 11

Special Congregational Meeting – Sunday October 16

Submitted by:

Neal Larson, Secretary