

WLC STRATEGIC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - APPROVED		
Meeting:	September Church Council Meeting	Facilitator: Ann Baumann, President
Date:	9/12/2023	Minute taker: Ross Gerber
Location:	Online	
Start/End Time:	6:30AM - 8:30 AM	
AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION POINTS	ACTION ITEMS
Call to order and quorum determination	<p>Voting participants present: Ann Baumann, Ross Gerber, Jason Frye, Evan Parkhurst, Sheryl Breiholz, Wade Amundson</p> <p>Voting participants not present: Janice Jones, Charlie Wesser, Todd Watanabe</p> <p>Non-voting participants present: Pastor Tom Pfothner, Mike Ehnstrom</p>	Action: motion made and passed that a quorum of voting members was present.
Opening/Devotion/prayers:	Tom introduced the current sermon series again and shared how being attentive to the rhythms of life is the best way to meet Jesus and those around us daily. We prayed individually about the burdens we are carrying and as a group brought them to prayer.	
CONSENT AGENDA:	August minutes and August financial report	
Minutes:	August minutes were reviewed and approved.	Action: August minutes approved.
Financials:	<p>August income was \$299,975 which was overbudget by 0.86%</p> <p>2023 YTD income was \$2,537,701 which is over budget by 0.02%</p> <p>August expenses were \$324,935 which was below budget by 4.8%</p> <p>2023 YTD expenses were \$2,595,898 which was below budget by 2.21%</p> <p>Year-to-date 2023 net income was -\$58,197 as compared to -\$116,054 in 2022.</p> <p>Year-over-year net income increased by \$57,857.</p> <p>Other notable activity not reflected in July financials included:</p>	Action: August financial report approved.
	<p>Mike also provided details on the following items:</p> <p>-Financial Planning Ministry: 78 attendees/30 plans created/16 gifts to WLC totaling \$1.5M</p> <p>-403(b) expense: this was incorrectly overbudgeted in for 2023, and will be corrected and excess budget allocated to Multisite</p> <p>-Financial Advisory Team: met for first time</p> <p>-Endowment Committee: meeting to investigate investment strategies</p>	
	<p>The Council asked the following questions which were discussed:</p> <p>-Restating the balance sheet to show items at market values. Mike and Council to consider at year-end when budgeting, and also to discuss with the Churches accountants. Cost benefit of this process will be considered.</p> <p>-Youth expenses: this line item was up considerably in August. Mike to investigate</p> <p>-Wage expenses overbudget while payroll tax expense underbudget: Council considered that these items should move in unison. Mike to investigate</p> <p>-Contract Labor costs: this cost will be over budget this year, and will be budgeted properly in 2024.</p>	
INFORM/DISCUSS TOPICS	DISCUSSION POINTS	ACTION ITEMS
EOS	<p>Pastor Tom summarized the progress on the implementation of EOS. He shared they held an initial meeting with staff and implementors to get the process started in August. Primary discussion centered around the use of an EOS Implementor's services, which are estimated to cost \$40,000 a year, for two years. Key points noted during discussion were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Services can be cancelled at any time. The cost is "paid a we go" -Tom noted the use of EOS will improve staff efficiency, togetherness, and accountability -Council members acknowledged the benefits to a growing multisite Church are very positive -Council noted they would like the cost/benefit of the services to be continually assessed, as well as progress measured 	Action: Council approved allocation of \$40,000 annually to EOS implementation
Council Advisory Team/MAT Updates	<p>Financial Advisory Team: Ross shared details from the team's first meeting, noting changes in scope from what was previously presented to the Council. The Team will serve as an advisor and long-term financial planner only. No financial statement review or governance/oversight role; that will remain solely with the Council. Other items discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Endowment investment strategy being reviewed -Insurance packages for staff being reviewed, along with Church policy around staff taking spouse's employer's package -Afton land disruption from area youth and steps taken to respond <p>Constitution/Bylaw Team: Ann shared details of this group's progress. They are actively reviewing the Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, Bylaws, and Council policies. The Articles will not be changed, the Constitution and Bylaws will be updated and approved by Congregation, and Council policies updated to match. The following steps are in process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Finalize identification of changes to Constitution and Bylaws to match Church Vision -Bring changes to Congregation and vote on approval -Send approved Constitution and Bylaws to Synod for approval <p>Update Council policies to match the final approved Constitution and Bylaws such that Council operates in</p>	
Senior Pastor's Report	<p>Highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tremendous momentum exists at all three campuses. More people are back for the fall and all are excited - Bringing Daniel on full-time at Valley Creek has been great and integral to the implementation of Planning Center - Still, much work is still to be done to finalize move to Planning Center - The Staff is starting to gain momentum around the changes and is learning and growing through change - Updates to Elder role is being reviewed as part of the Constitution/Bylaw team 	
Closing prayer	We closed in prayer.	
Closing	Meeting adjourned	Action: Motion made and passed to adjourn.