

## **FLC Vision Council Minutes October 5th 2023**

**Members Present:** Pastor Dianne Loufman, Pastor; Amy Merchant, Secretary; Julie Samuelson, Ministry Board Chair; Tyler Klingfus, Councilor-at-Large; Susanna Ojakangas, Vice President; Mark Boyce, President; Linda Mettner, Treasurer; Beth Storaasli, Past President

**Members Absent:** Bob Ardren, Councilor-at-Large

**Devotion:** One Coin Found Chapter Three Amy Merchant.

People shared experiences of feeling rejected/hurt in church.

**Adoption of the Agenda:** Kirsten Bich approves, Beth Storaasli seconds.

**Approval of last month's minutes:** Beth Storaasli approves, Linda Mettner seconds.

### **Pastor's Report:**

- 21 new members were received with more who were interested but unable to make the session this time.
- Sankofa Publication; a document we're proud of; thinking of places where we can make it available; for instance, places where tourists might pick it up.
- FLC Duluth Best Place of Worship. Kelly collected plaque at Bent Paddle
- As we get ready for Chum moving in– clearing out old things; we'll sell old Duluth Shirts/Mugs/Stickers and give the money to World Hunger
- Ecofaith summit in April will be here

### **Visioning: Goal setting– Gatherings**

- The importance of creating opportunities to gather
- Talk to different age groups of what would be good. Email ideas to council

### **Treasurer's Report– Linda Mettner**

- Income expense for August. 2k less than what mission plan was for month
  - 98% for income ytd
  - 94% for expenses ytd
  - Kelly will make payment from Scorpions and from Synod rent at end of September towards our debt reduction
- Julie Samuelson approves, Beth Storaasli seconds

### **Ministry Board Report – Julie Samuelson**

- Good conversation about our structure– what works and what doesn't.
- Some of the teams and scheduled meetings no longer make sense.

- Action teams are where people are most engaged
- Don't necessarily want to be in meetings, but want to participate in things

### **Old Business:**

#### **Call committee update – Mark Boyce**

- 3 interested candidates
- Continuing to pursue primary candidate
- Two bishops were talking this week. Was supportive.

#### **Chum partnership update – Pastor Dianne**

- Cleaned out 3 rooms, moved resource rooms. Moved things to Karen's old office
- Moved harpsichord down to music room
- Moved archive rolling carts back to archive room
- John Cole came and looked at spaces yesterday
- Raise rent because it's another room
- Linda will send out what our contribution to Chum is, and what Kelly is thinking of for rent

#### **Studio for youth – Read John Sippola's new proposal**

Numerous middle schoolers and high schoolers signed up– interested in photography, making videos, podcasts, etc.

Motion to accept. Amy Merchant approves, Susanna Ojakangas Seconds

#### **Update on speaker series from Foundation – Mark Boyce**

- Don't have a firm answer on speaker series. It is progressing.
- Would start in May

### **New Business:**

Structure- Susanna, Tyler, and our new Associate Pastor (once they arrive) will be able to work on revamping FLC government structure.

#### **Digital Ministry:**

Archival material needs to be digitized

Gathering our digital community

FB gathering groups- realm?

**Grant to Ingria parish– see grant proposal to Foundation**

- Paul Anderson asked for Grant for \$5,000 to help with a car  
Amy Merchant motions to decline grant proposal, Beth Storaasli seconds  
Beth Storaasli rescinds motion to decline grant proposal; Linda Mettner seconds.
- Beth Storaasli makes motion that vision endorse grant application by Paul Anderson  
But with caveat that the Foundation address the following concerns:

- 1- the impact of this action given the war in Ukraine and Russia.
  - 2- partnering with church entities that may not share the same understanding of the gospel of inclusion for Women and LGBTQ+ people. This is important as FLC is a Reconciling in Christ congregation
  - 3- Use of funds for purchase of a vehicle.
  - 4- the need to review our global ministry goals and objectives.
- Unanimous oral approval

**Coffee-** We will start selling coffee from the Equal Exchange Program

**Prayer** Pastor Dianne Loufman

**Adjourn**

Next meeting: Thursday, November 2, 2023

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy K. Merchant, VC Secretary