

Shepherd of the Valley Council Minutes
April 20,2021 via zoom

Present: Julie Johnson, Pastor Scott Benolkin, Phil Smalley, Dave Musser, Barbara Pearson, Carolyn Ciaccio, Bob Tukker, Pearl Fortman, Steve Larsen, Karen Dolan, Rhoda Fox, LaVon Downing. Guests present: Kris Tukker, John Wolf, Judy Miller, Myrna Hagemann and Don Wiese.

Absent: Gina Fiorenza and Brian Carpenter.

The meeting was called to order by President Julie Johnson at 7:05 P.M.
Pastor opened with devotions and prayer.

Bob made a motion to accept the March Minutes as recorded, Steve seconded. The motion carried.

Pastor's Report: We have had 2 weeks of in-person worship on Wednesday evening in the west parking lot which has gone well. Pastor will receive his second vaccine shot tomorrow.

Old Business:

- A. The committee liaisons were approved last month.
- B. The election on April 6th went well.
- C. The tech committee of Pastor, Phil and Rhoda will set up a time to meet and will reach out to the congregation for volunteers.

New Business:

- A. In-person worship: There was a lengthy discussion on when and how we should proceed to start our in-person worship. We are in phase 4 of the pandemic hoping to get to the Bridge phase but things are progressing slowly in our area due to the rise in hospitalizations for COVID-19. We are allowed 50 people in our church space but at this time we need more help to get things set-up and started. It makes it more difficult without a church secretary. Many people are getting frustrated with not being able to meet in person and some are finding other churches to attend. Bob made a motion to open church services in person the first weekend in May, Steve seconded. Phil made an amendment to the motion to move to May 16th to open giving us more time to get organized. Rhoda made an amendment to the amendment to end the Wednesday evening worship on May 12th, Steve seconded the amendment. The amendment carried. Pastor adds an amendment to follow the Public Health guidelines regarding the capacity recommended as the pandemic continues. Rhoda seconded. The amendment carried. The motion to reopen church services in person on May 16th and stop the Wednesday evening service on May 12th carried. Rhoda made a motion to form a committee to be in charge of coordinating everything to make this happen. Carolyn seconded. The committee will consist of Carolyn Ciaccio LaVon Downing, Don Wiese, John Wolf, Steve Larsen, Barbara Pearson, Bob Tukker and Dave Musser.

Carolyn felt it was a good idea to continue zoom. Phil questions how involved do we get with zoom and the equipment needed. It was decided to keep it simple and use an iPad that would feature Pastor and the whole chancel. Phil will work on making that happen.

- B. The phone system went down as a result of a transformer blowing. It took out the answering machine. Rhoda made a motion to not repair the current answering machine, Julie seconded. Motion carried. Phil made a motion to eliminate the second phone line, Karen seconded. The motion carried. The idea of using a ring doorbell to monitor the door was mentioned. No action taken at this time.
- C. The finance program has been tabled indefinitely at this time.
- D. Preschool sign: Mary Larsen presented an idea of using Signs Now to make a sign of an aluminum core wrapped in vinyl with a picture and scripture as a permanent sign to replace the preschool sign. The cost of the sign would be \$553.90. Carolyn made a motion for Mary to proceed with the sign, Dave seconded. The motion carried. Rhoda made a motion to go with Signs Now and to use memorial monies to pay for it. Karen seconded, the motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Worship and Music: electronically submitted

Coffee Connect was held on the second Monday of the month with an attendance of 10 participants.

Living Vine was held on the third Monday of the month and was attended by 11 participants.

Property Committee: The committee proposed to continue the service of Rockford Heating for service and maintenance of the heating and air conditioning systems at a cost of \$2,000 for the year 2021. Bob made a motion to continue this service, Phil seconded. The motion carried.

The committee will be getting estimates on window work that needs to be done. The committee has also proposed getting a new light to spot light the cross. Bob made a motion to purchase a new light not to exceed \$900.00, Rhoda seconded. The motion carried. Monies from the preschool account and the property holding account will be used to fund the light

Finance Committee: Phil gave an update on the status of the budget. We are under budget by \$2898 to date. We will continue to monitor this.

Steve made a motion to adjourn, Pastor seconded. Pastor closed with prayer at 9:30 P.M. Next meeting will be May 18th, 2021.

Respectfully submitted:

LaVon Downing