

SLT Meeting

March 29, 2023. (7:00 pm)

Attending: Katy Van Dyke
Mary Lee Nielson
Bruce Larson
Jan McCarthy

Pastor Duane Coates
Dale Neuberger
Bill Bertram

Derek Woehl
Bonnie Ranum
Phil Mueller
Randi Watterson,
Recorder

Bruce Larson moved to approve the agenda. 2nd by Derek Woehl. Approved.
Mary Lee Nielson moved to accept the minutes of the previous meeting (Feb. 8, 2023). 2nd by Bruce Larson. Approved.

Nomination/Election of Chairpersons of remaining Working Groups: Pastor Coates, on behalf of the Nominations and Leadership Development Working Group, nominated Jan McCarthy to be the Chairperson of the Trustees Work Group. Jan accepted.

No nominations were presented for the Treasurer or Staff-Parish Relations groups.

Set date/time for April SLT meeting: The next SLT meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 5:30 pm. (2nd Wed. of the month)

Old Business: Audit update – Pastor Coates met with the Finance Working Group. The previous auditors were asked for their input. They have heard back from Curt Van Dyke and Kelly Pederson, but are waiting to hear from Rhonda Marshall and Avis Richter. The only books audited will be from 2022. A decision needs to be made regarding the scope of the audit. Nikole, from The Tax Team, took on the task of keeping Epworth's books in January of 2021.

Office Administrator Search Update – Two young women from VCSU were interviewed for the Newsletter Editor position. Both were considered excellent candidates. Katy is waiting to hear back from another individual, who may be interested in the Office Administrator position. Mary Lee Nielson moved to have background checks done after interviews, due to cost. 2nd by Bruce Larson. Approved.

Security Update – The company (Readi Tech) is waiting on parts before proceeding with the security project.

Church Pictorial Directory (Pastor Coates) – Nothing new on this.

Usher/Greeting Job Description Update – (Pastor Coates) – No one has volunteered for this job of recruiting ushers and greetings. It was suggested that this be added to the Office Administrator duties.

New Business: Membership cultivation – Phil Mueller, Mary Lee Nielson, and Pastor Coates are working to form a working group (4 to 6 people) to take part in visitations with members who no longer attend church.

Pulpit fill on May 21st – Pastor Coates will be gone on May 21, 2023. A possible fill in, Dawn of Hope Ministry, was voted on, with all present voting “no,” due to the \$300 to \$500 expense. Pastor Coates will also be gone on April 23rd, but that is Camp Sunday, so the Lints will be filling in on that date.

Pastor’s Report – Pastor Coates’ girlfriend, Cindy Heidelberger, will be having back surgery consultation on April 13, 2023. Pastor Coates will be helping her during her recovery time. There may be new members transferring to Epworth in May. Epworth may be receiving new members, as an Oasis Network, from churches in the area who have chosen to disaffiliate.

Dale Neuberger has asked to resign from the SLT due to health concerns. His wife, Holly, would be willing to fill in. Phil Mueller moved to accept Dale’s resignation. 2nd by Bruce Larson. Approved.

Trustees – This report will be completed when Jan McCarthy returns and meets with Pastor Coates.

Financial Workgroup – The Financial Report was missing some figures, so was not accepted as complete at this time. It was noted that snow removal was a large expense this winter.

Ongoing Signature Ministries – The Great Plains Food Bank will be distributing food on Tues., April 18th, from 1:30 to 3:00 pm. Volunteers are needed.

Meeting adjourned.

Randi Watterson, Recorder

