

**HOSANNA LUTHERAN CHURCH
MINUTES ANNUAL VOTERS' MEETING
NOVEMBER 18, 2007
(Preliminary)**

Call to Order

Tim Boettcher, President, called the meeting to order. Fifty (50) members were signed in to begin the meeting.

Opening Prayer

Rev. Greg Peters offered the opening prayer.

Agenda Approval

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Eric Linneman, second Doug Ferguson.

Minutes Approval

Motion to approve the May 20, 2007 Minutes was made by Milo Samson, second David Kennedy. Maxine Wightman requested the spelling of her last name be corrected.

Overview of Congregation

Tim Boettcher prepared a booklet of written reports from the committees to summarize their various projects.

A Personal Evangelism Workshop will be offered during the spring, 2008.

Missions fund has a line item in the budget of \$3,000.00. Tim suggested a Missions Committee is formed to decide how to spend the funds.

A Women's Fellowship Group has been formed.

Capital Improvements for 2009, may include remodeling the sanctuary and installation of an elevator. The congregation will need to raise the necessary funds.

Several places are available to serve: Coordinator for Community Outreach; two more Counters would make it possible to have 3 teams of counters that would count once every third month; Coordinator for Readers for the second scripture reading; Coordinator for PowerPoint presentations for all three services.

Tim offered a sincere thank you to Guy Larson, Past President, and Tracy Stabrava, Past School Board Chair, for all their efforts.

Pastoral Review

Pastor Greg will soon be celebrating 15 years at Hosanna.

Transitions Team, 40 Days of Purpose groups, Ablaze groups, and Pastor's participation in the Pastoral Leadership Institute, all benefit Pastor Greg and the entire congregation. Pastor Greg and Phyllis will be going to China in May, 2008. This is the final PLI activity.

The congregation has opportunities to serve on mission trips such as the trip to Costa Rica in February.

Pastor Greg stated that he is thankful for the opportunity to serve the congregation.

Election

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| President | Tim Boettcher | No Vote |
| Pres. Elect | Teresa Kennedy | Vote |
| Treasurer | Linda Marsh | No Vote |
| Treas. Elect | Jonathan Kennedy | Vote |
| School Board Chair | Diane Obialero | Vote |

Motion to accept the slate of candidates was made by David Kennedy. Second, Terry Utecht. Slate of candidates approved.

Motion to elect the slate of candidates was made by Terry Utecht. Second, Pastor Greg. Slate of candidates elected.

Treasurer's Report

Linda Marsh reported the budget is in line with the 2006 Budget. An exception is reimbursement from the Early Learning Center for utilities. Summer contributions are usually small but expenses such as payroll, mortgage payment, insurance, utilities, etc. must be paid. As a result during the summer it was necessary to borrow \$17,000.00 from the Belleview Fund to cover the deficit. The \$17,000.00 will be repaid as contributions increase during the holiday season.

The Payroll account has decreased by \$1,000.00 as a result of the Office Manager taking time off without pay.

Budget Proposal 2008

Tim gave a brief overview of the 2008 Proposed Budget. The goal was to present a balanced budget to the congregation that is in line with the 2007 Budget. Some changes include the Youth Director payroll account. The Youth groups now meet every other week which will result in a \$1,000.00 decrease in the Youth Director payroll account. The funds in the Youth account will be used for retreats and other activities. The Youth Group will not attend a National Convention for two more years. It should be noted that the Youth group raises funds through many ongoing fund raising activities throughout the year.

Pastor Greg received no raise other than cost of living and the increased multiplier for years of service. A Health Savings fund has been established for Pastor Greg. An amount of \$2,000.00 has been transferred from his Regular Payroll account to the Health Savings fund.

Guy Larson reported last year there was a \$20,000.00 deficit. No slush fund. Year end was a net positive of \$3,000.00. The trend seems to be no increased giving and more expenses. What are we going to do to correct this problem? Guy is estimating a \$15,000.00 short fall at the end of this budget year.

Guy Larson made a motion to move monies from the Air Conditioning account into either the Maintenance Fund or General Fund. Second, Margo Pasha. Motion passed.

Discussion Jerry Gerdes asked if there is a Missions Restricted account. Answer is yes, account #1421. Jude Donovan asked if Budget items can be moved between the General Funds and Restricted Funds at the Council level or do the Bylaws require a vote from the congregation. Tim Boettcher answered that Council does have the authority to move monies from General Funds to Restricted Funds or visa versa. Pastor Greg agreed that Council does have the authority to move funds as necessary.

Pastor Greg suggested an amendment to Guy Larson's motion. Move \$1,200.00 from the Air Conditioning Account to the Maintenance Fund or the General Fund and leave a balance of \$500.00 in the Air Condition Account to cover any unforeseen expenses.

A question was asked if approval of budget details is necessary to establish line by line priorities. Answer to the question was no.

Guy Larson withdrew his motion. Refer the matter to Council.

Discussion: Does Vacation Bible School have a fund? Yes, Restricted budget.

Move Mission funds out of the General Fund into the Restricted Fund.

Jude Donovan stated that our mind set is not driven by dollars but to focus on our obligation to support missions. This should be among our first priorities.

Guy Larson made a motion to remove \$3,000.00 from the General Fund budget. Question called by voice vote. Amend vote to hand vote. Motion called by hand vote. Motion passed.

Terry Utecht proposed that the line item for Youth be raised to \$1,000.00. When asked how this would be paid for Eric Linneman made a motion that \$1,000.00 be added to the fundraiser line to balance this account. Second? Motion passed.

Pastor Greg moved to close discussion. Motion passed by voice vote.

Ruth Dawes questioned the salary for Office Manager citing the reason that the increase was less than the cost of living.

Ruth Dawes made a motion to increase the salary for Office Manager and all other workers outside Pastor's salary by 4 ½%. Second, Maxine Wightman. Discussion comments included the struggle to present a balanced budget to the congregation. This motion would result in an unbalanced budget. Trust the budget proposal from the Budget Committee and accept the Proposed 2008 Budget as presented. Motion to increase Office Manager's salary defeated by voice vote.

David Kennedy made a motion to accept the 2008 Budget as amended. Second, Jude Donovan. Motion approved.

Old Business – Bylaws Approval

Doug Ferguson presented the Report from the Bylaws Committee. At last year's Annual Meeting, a committee was formed to review the Church's bylaws with the plan to make amendments to them. At that time, a committee headed by Eric Linneman was formed. At the May, 2007 Regular Meeting the committee reported its progress. At that time, it was authorized to proceed with amending the bylaws and present the new bylaws at the Annual Meeting to be held November 2007. The committee was expanded to include Pastor Greg, Guy Larson, Tim Boettcher, Bob Hille, Eric Linneman, Jude Donovan, and Doug Ferguson. The current bylaws provide that they must be updated no later than every five years. The last revisions were in 2003. This year, the committee decided to make major reforms to the bylaws. A new section was added to include definitions, change the present Council to an Executive Council, a special section for Elders, and Membership to speak to current practices. The Bylaws committee held an open discussion on November 11, 2007. Some changes were recommended. The definition of membership was modified to include baptism and/or confirmation as a requirement of membership.

A motion was made by Doug Ferguson to accept the Bylaws and Amendments as presented. Second, Guy Larson. Motion passed.

Doug Ferguson stated that the District Council will review these new Bylaws.

Discussion/Questions: Milo Samson stated that the Bylaws require an Agenda to be published two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting date. Tim Boettcher stated that this year the agenda items had not been decided two weeks prior to the meeting date.

Milo Samson made a motion to change wording. Motion defeated.

Guy Larson made a motion to end discussion.

A motion was made by Pastor Greg to accept the Bylaws and Amendments as presented. Second, Stephen Winkler. Motion approved.

New Business

Pastor Greg made a motion to accept the PMC roster slate of Elders. Second?? Motion approved.

Adjournment

Guy Larson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second, Tim Boettcher. Meeting adjourned.

Closing Prayer

Pastor Greg led the Voters' in the singing of The Doxology.

Respectfully submitted,

Marge Drew

Council of Ministries Secretary