

Lone Oak United Methodist Church

Church Council Minutes

DATE: Saturday, February 17, 2024, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Members:

P	Sam Boss	P	Jack Feiler	P	David Pope - Chair
P	Allen Burnett	P	Carson Ford	P	Freda Thompson
P	Donna Chu	P	Ranee Gough		Cheryl Waldo
P	David Cunningham – Lay Leader	P	Renee Planitz	P	Connor Williams – Pastor
	Kirk Edwards				

Others:

Agenda Items:

Topic: Opening Prayer & Spiritual Formation: Chair – David Pope

Discussion: David Pope called the meeting to order. He led the group in prayer and Spiritual formation based on the Great Commission. He reviewed the UMC Discipline with the group.

Action: Each month a different council member will lead the prayer/spiritual formation and leadership equipping.

Topic: Leadership Equipping

Discussion: David presented a slide show on resetting the church toward the Simplified Accountable Structure. He reviewed the structure and how it is to be accomplished at LOUMC. The goal by 2027 is to have 9 members on the Council. Will correctly title the Committee on Nominations and Leadership. It has been incorrectly referred to as the Lay Leadership Committee. This is in align with the Discipline and betters reflect its nominating and training function. Reviewed examples of Guiding Principles for a Simplified Council.

Action:

Topic: Model Agenda

Discussion: Reviewed a Sample Agenda. The goal is that the meeting should not be longer than 90 minutes. Each member should focus on packet and consent calendar items and let David know after their review if there are any questions/concerns or items that need to be pulled out. David plans to have packet at least 7 days before the meeting for our review. Members also looked at a sample of annual leadership retreat agenda to set annual goals, budgets, evaluate mission, vision and goals. The group also discussed having town hall meetings at least a couple of times a year to discuss ministries, complete surveys, and

communicate with the congregation. The roles of the church council and pastor were discussed.

Action:

Topic: Council Covenant

Discussion: Members reviewed past council covenant and a sample covenant from Mission Possible. The group discussed confidentiality statements. Donna Chu will draft a statement for confidentiality regarding SPRC functions. Connor will give Donna information from the Discipline regarding SPRC for her to reference.

Action: Consensus agreement that no additions needed to be made to Covenant for the Lone Oak United Methodist Church Council. Covenant was signed by those present.

Topic: Trustee and SPPC Committees and select Trustee Chair/Establish Maintenance Team

Discussion: David Pope will act as chair of trustees. There are currently 12 members on the council. The Discipline designates a maximum of 9 for trustees and 11 maximum for SPRC. Will designate trustees when a vote is required from those members present.

Action: David Cunningham will chair the building/maintenance team. He will recruit additional members from the congregation.

Topic: Review of New People

Discussion: Connor reported on new attendees in the church. At least 2 new families have been attending regularly and one youth will be baptized at Easter.

Topic: Goals, Visions, Accountability

Discussion: Connor is developing a project for small groups to begin in August. The goal is for the groups to be more active in prayer, servanthood and invitation.

Action:

Topic: Council Accountability Review

Discussion: What we look at to see if we as a council are doing what we need to be doing – David will have a copy of the items for members at next meeting.

Action: Accepted packet minutes and staff reports.

Topic: Generative and Strategic Work/Definition of Ministry Team and Work Team/Assign Work Teams

Discussion: Discussed teams that were needed. Identified council members will lead work teams and recruit members of the congregation to assist.

Action:

Guiding principles/policies work team leaders – Allen Burnett and Jack Feiler The primary focus to budget and maintenance

Lone Oak United Methodist Church overview Review/Edit include brochure leaders - Donna Chu and Renee Plantz

Safety and Security Procedures team leaders - Carson Ford review security and Key policy

Annual Ministry Report – Connor Williams– will provide report for July 1 – June 30
Stewardship – Leadership will be designated next month

Topic: Agenda items needing approval

Discussion: Mowing bids -reviewed 3 bids. All bids were greater than budgeted amount.

Lowering insurance cost for church – Donna Chu and David Cunningham have talked with insurance provider who gave ideas for lowering cost through increasing the deductible and decreasing replacement costs. Group discussed options.

Action: Motion by Sam Boss to accept bid from David Cunningham to mow/landscape church property and rental property. Seconded by Renee Gough. Motion approved.

Sam Boss made the motion to take the \$600 from rental funds and \$400 from memorial garden fund to cover the budget shortfall. Seconded by Freda Thompson. Motion passed.

David Pope will continue discussions to provide more detailed comparison on current costs for church building, contents, garage, rental property, pavilion, etc. Also try to get an estimate from Erie.

Executive Session SPRC

Topic: Communication

Discussion: David Pope will report on the meeting during announcements at church tomorrow. Including information pulled from reports on help with children's church and Rachel Herzog needing volunteers to help in the office when she is off. He will introduce the council members. The council members should be posted on the bulletin board with dates of the next council meeting. David will discuss with Sarah Ford regarding ways to let church know about current leadership and work teams.

Action:

Respectfully submitted
Freda Thompson