

Lake Wapogasset Lutheran Bible Camp, Inc

Board of Directors Meeting 5/11/17

Meeting started at 9:04 am with Devotions by Luke Halverson. Everyone selected a picture for what fear means to them.

Call to Order at 9:15 am.

Roll call: Tom, Dave Overman, Beth, Dave Olson, David H., Jill, Liz, Kristin, Rich, Julie, Wondimu – 11 present; Al arrived later.

Administration Team in attendance. Heather introduced them and their position: Luke Halverson – program, Emma Harness – program Wilderness (last meeting), Nate Berkas – program Wilderness (first meeting), Dee Dee Gould – finance, Jen Hellie – Development, August Wentz – Sites (first meeting).

Tom explained that documents are placed in Dropbox. Confirmed that everyone has access, so will continue to use Dropbox, and board members can print or use an electronic device as desired. Reports will be sent in advance of each meeting. The purpose of the Board is to have conversation about the reports rather than review them at the meetings. Committees to be more involved moving forward.

M/S/C To approve Minutes of the March 11, 2017 Board Retreat, with no corrections or comments.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Heather gave an update on pursuing two architectural firms for design proposal. One did not respond. Station 19 did respond and a handout was passed out. Discussion with the firm talked about the dining facility and Master Plan. They have experience working with volunteers and other camps. Worked with members of the Administration Team for schedule and input. Additional services with fees are as listed, and looking for next step on schedule.

Dave Overman asked if additional contact can be made for comparison; staff to try again with past involvement of Steve Urban.

M/S/C To get a second bid, and help Heather find reference for additional contacts.

M/S/C Amend. Check references on Station 19 and additional firm(s).

Discussion on timeframe and option to Heather to move forward. Internal plan of staff is looking for dining hall by summer of 2020. No specifics on building or timeframe has been approved by board as yet.

M/S/C When staff recommendation for design services is ready, move that the Executive Committee be authorized to approve the contract.

ACTION ITEMS

Tom called attention to Luther Dell documents, the summary from Heather and the presentation last fall. Discussion of possible sale; direct staff to what program needs would be affected and the use of family camps. YMCA has different structure using Family Camp by renting this summer so comparison may not be possible. Higher camper number of some weeks not necessarily related to Luther Dell relocations. Easiest solution is to sell, but Wapo still looking at “who we are”; is site still important. Great potential of Ox Lake to develop. Look back at Strategic Task Force reports, recommendation to let go; citing bunk bed obstructions at Luther Dell as to close, well at Wapo site to replace building. Distance has been a factor. David Hohle has long history with Luther Dell if anyone looking for more details.

M/S/C Move to start market research of property value, site appraisal and appropriate environmental studies for report back to August Board meeting.

YMCA would not entertain option to buy until they have experienced it first, but will move quickly when a decision is made. What would be a vision for potential sale? If we are to continue using Luther Dell, what does picture look like? Staff has not identified a niche for this site.

Dave Overman summarized the Audit Report. Caution was noted again with 'segregation of duties' fault due to small staff size; he read points from Significant Audit Findings as accepted practice. Has not had a final call with auditors yet.

M/S/C To approve the audit.

Heather mentioned the Admin Team met, and also with Paul Hill, and reworked parts of the Strategic Plan. Handout with numbers now changed to letters. Reviewed new update, especially C from discussion of recommendation at last meeting. Sub-points to be developed as needed for board, staff and others. Discussion on what Board is to approve.

M/S/C Move to accept Strategy A, B, C, D, E with emphasis to sub-points moving forward.

M/S/C Amend. Change word in Strategy C to "with" instead of "for".

REPORTS

Tom has the idea moving forward is heavy work being done in committees with discussion and motions at the Board; committees bring to the Board with motion for action. Administration staff will be at Board meetings and as resource to committees. Board members appointed to committees by choice if possible, and potential size noted on list. Dee Dee would work with Finance, Jen with Development, Luke and Nate with Program, August with Sites, Heather with Governance. Tom and Heather would float among the committees.

M/S/C Move to approve Peter, Liz and Rich as Chair of their respective committees. David Overman and David Olson are Chair of their committees by By-Laws.

Dee Dee presented Financial Summary, and highlighted some items on Financial Report.

Jen mentioned it is first year of new software and big adjustment but going well. Tyler working with special programming and Becky is new person in office. Reviewed Dashboard, highlighted Renewal Campaign and work with Brenda, and Sustaining Roots Thrivent Match grant. Development plan is for projects to have people donate to rather than an account. Letters to board members are to invite individuals to camp; also identified top 25% of congregations to send invite to camp.

Luke reviewed registration numbers, earlier registrations from past years. Some groups tougher to get in, but not from camp full, rather certain weeks or preferred building. Other items are in report, camp theme of 'Fearless'. Nate mentions now being able to look at vision of what camping could become. Emma stated numbers of campers, more canoes and guides, and more needed.

August briefed on new parking lot being developed, opens more space for camper activities; enhancing Ox building for additional campers; horticulturalist on limited basis to beautify spots at Wapo; re-work of beaver dam on Ox Lake.

Heather appreciative of staff and additional workers behind them; gratitude for volunteers; Research Report impacts. Canoeing the Mountain by Tod Bulsingor recommended reading. Concluded with two Adaptive Change readings.

Next meeting August 24, 9am at Roseville Lutheran.

M/S/C Moved to adjourn. 11:51 am.

Respectfully submitted,
David Hohle, Secretary