

MINUTES

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
INTERNATIONAL LUTHERAN LAYMEN'S LEAGUE**

St. Louis Union Station Hotel

1820 North Market St, St. Louis, Missouri 63103 Thursday-Friday, October 20-21, 2022

In Attendance: Kurt Senske, Chairman; Gene Partlow, Vice Chairman; Melanie Braun, Treasurer; Patricia Ross, Secretary; Linda Arnold; Eric Brown; Vincent James; Jonathan Laabs; Kristi Matus; Virginia Miller; Edith Schoepp; Don Scifres; Gordon Tresch; LHM CEO Kurt Buchholz, Ex Officio; Pastoral Advisor Rev. Tom Pfotenhauer, Ex Officio; LCC Synodical Liaison James Schnarr

Not in Attendance: Jim Dankenbring; Kirk Farney; LCMS Synodical Liaison Dan McMiller; LLL-Canada Managing Director Lisa Jackson

Additional staff attended at the request of CEO Kurt Buchholz.

01 Kurt Senske, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM.

02 Rev. Tom Pfotenhauer, Pastoral Advisor, led a devotion on Acts 8, emphasizing the importance of curiosity in evangelism.

M 2022/23-12 Motion was made to approve the consent agenda, including: Approval of Meeting Agenda; Approval of July 2022 Meeting Minutes; Annual Approve of Board Policy 2.12.1; and Approval of Housing Allowance Variance Designation 2022.

Motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

03 Melanie Braun, Treasurer and Budget & Finance Committee Chair, reported that the Committee met to review first quarter finances and Committee responsibilities. She invited David Lanius, CFO, to provide a first quarter financial report.

CFO Lanius reported on the organization's positive net profit variance for the first quarter, as well as current financial metrics.

Jeff Craig-Meyer, Senior Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer, provided an update on fundraising metrics through the first quarter.

The Board asked questions and discussed throughout both reports.

04 Edith Schoepp, Chair of the Audit Committee, reported that the Committee met with the organization's auditing firm to receive their audit report. She invited CFO Lanius to report on the meeting with the auditors.

CFO Lanius reported that the auditing team from Armanino presented a clean audit report to the Committee. The Board asked questions and discussed.

Committee Chair Schoepp shared the resolution passed by the Committee to accept the audit on behalf of the Board:

The Audit Committee of International Lutheran Laymen's League Board of Directors has received and examined the draft of the Financial Statements with Independent Auditor's Report for the year ending May 31, 2022 and recommends to the Board of Directors adoption of the draft of the Financial Report with Independent Auditor's Report.

05 Kurt Buchholz, CEO, reported on LHM's continued analysis of the organization's indirect impact, the progress of the CONNECT Cabinet, and the development of the international internship program.

06 Liaison Updates

Chairman Senske invited Rev. Jim Schnarr, LCC Synodical Liaison, to provide an update.

LCC Liaison Schnarr reported on Canadian congregations return to worship after covid, as well as LCC's continued structural work.

CEO Buchholz reported that LHM has met with LCC representatives to work towards LCC's convention requirement to develop a Memo of Understanding with all associated organizations. LCC representatives have been helpful throughout the process.

No update from the LCMS was received.

07 Executive Committee Report

Chairman Senske, Chair of the Executive Committee, reported that the Committee met to prepare for the full Board meeting.

08 Nominations Committee Report

Jon Laabs, Chair of the Nominations and Election Committee, reported that the initial call for nominations has gone out through *The Lutheran Layman*. The Committee will meet soon to review nominations that have been received.

09 LHM Foundation Update

Vincent James, Board Representative to the LHM Foundation, reported that the Foundation Board of Trustees had a productive meeting and will be looking at new methods to elicit funds for the endowment, including a new named endowment program.

Chairman Senske reported that the Foundation has requested that the Board consider how to utilize excess income to grow the endowment. The Board discussed and will consider the request in more depth in January.

Senior Vice President Jeff Craig-Meyer introduced the new named endowment Vine and Branches program.

10 Chairman Senske discussed the future meeting schedule as presented:

- January 27, 2023 – Online
- April 20-21, 2023 – St. Louis, MO
- July 20-21, 2023 – St. Louis, MO
- November 2-3, 2023 – St. Louis, MO
- January 26, 2024 – Online
- April 18-19, 2024 – St. Louis, MO
- July 18-19, 2024 – St. Louis, MO
- October 17-18, 2024 – St. Louis, MO

M 2022/23-13 Motion was made to approve the schedule as presented.

Motion passed by acclamation.

11 Pastoral Advisor Pfothenauer led a closing prayer at 4:30 PM.

The meeting was in recess until the following day.

12 The Board reconvened at 1:15 PM following strategic work.

13 Chairman Senske requested that an advisory subcommittee for strategic work be convened for CEO Buchholz to consult for guidance and advice. The subcommittee will include Chairman Senske, Kirk Farney, Kristi Matus, Gene Partlow, and Don Scifres.

14 The Board determined to change its online January 2023 meeting to an in-person meeting in St. Louis.

M 2022/23-14 Motion was made to go into executive session.

Motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

M 2022/23-15 Motion was made to go out of executive session.

Motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

15 Linda Arnold offered a closing prayer.

16 The meeting adjourned at 1:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,
Patricia Ross, Secretary