

Sugar Creek Bible Camp 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes

Welcome

The meeting was opened and devotions led by President of the Board of Directors, Carla Stanton, reminding us that we are rooting our time together in prayer and reminding us, “For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven.” Ecclesiastes 3: The devotion’s focus was based upon the theme of balance and returning to God in prayer and gratitude.

The meeting continued with the introduction of the Board of Directors, Sugar Creek Bible Camp staff (full and part time), an explanation of meeting format taking place over Zoom with an opportunity to practice voting online and sharing of the minutes from 2021. Motion to approve the minutes by Pastor Meg Hoversten with a second by Mike Larsen. Motion carried.

Reports

The Director’s Report given by Executive Director Jesse Klosterboer. We ended the year in the black and this was lifted before the attendees and celebrated. Average of 25 staff at camp each week during the summer. There were 621 overnight campers, about 100 more in the Explorer day programs and the same in the family camp activities. Sugar Creek Bible Camp was Covid-free during the summer. A conservative estimate of 38,700 contact hours of Christian education was offered by the ministries of Sugar Creek Bible Camp during 2021.

The owner and CEO of Starr Valley Farms contacted Jesse to see if seasonal workers could be housed at camp for a number of weeks late fall to early winter. About 20 Spanish-speaking workers were welcomed and stayed in Frontier Town. This relationship was determined to be a huge success and will continue into the future.

The Program Committee Report was given by Pastor Steve Meyer who shared the year was a success at camp because of the dedicated staff who make camp a wonderful experience. Also mentioned were the six summer staff alumni who are currently enrolled in one of the ELCA seminaries. Pastor Steve reminded everyone of the new programs and that there is something for campers of all ages at Sugar Creek.

The Property Committee Report was given by Tim Zauche highlighting the following: dredging of the pond and installation of a bubbler system. First annual volunteer work weekend was held and a success. Prairie burn was not able to be completed. Petting Zoo and chicken coop in Frontier Town was created. Amish cabin is in place but incomplete. Stair steps between the log cabin trail and road were repaired. Frontier Town was prepared for running water and heat added to Uncle Jack’s Kitchen. The A Frame house had updates completed while vacant.

The Development and Marketing Report was given by Bryce Griffin. Highlights included: Fall Festival renamed from the previous name for wagon rides, petting zoo, morning devotions, 5k fun run on site and virtual, silent auction and vendors. Online bidding for quilts was also an

addition to the Fall Festival. There were two weddings held at camp this year. The weddings were a lot of work but deemed a success.

The Executive Committee Report was given Carla Stanton. Four members are on the Executive Committee and are elected by the board. The Executive Committee is the financial team and personnel team that meets monthly.

The Trust Foundation Report was shared by Pastor Nile Sandeen as prepared by committee member Paul Arena. This board is looking for new members for this committee.

Financials

2021 Audit Committee Report: Suzanne Bartels and Michael Douglass. Motion made by Suzanne and Michael to accept as presented with a second by Liz Hoversten. Motion carried. A second vote to accept this report was taken as members indicated they did not see the option to vote. The second vote carried.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Pastor Nile Sandeen who gave credit to the staff who made the positive financial result possible. A correction was noted as a typo on Immanuel Mount Horeb's line which should have no entry. The final total of the report being correct.

2021 and 2022 Reports: It was noted the fiscal year budget was changed last year (2021) so we moved from an eleven month budget to a twelve month budget. We had 621 campers and budgeted for 625. This year's budget used 750 campers for the 2022 budget. Congregational gifts were down but stronger than 2019 and so to be celebrated. Bottom line numbers for the past three years is moving toward financial health: 2018 \$68,000 deficit, 2019 \$42,000 deficit, 2020 \$21,000 deficit, and in 2021 a \$25,000 surplus. This is not reflecting the PPP monies received. 2022 budget shows an increase in staff salaries, in part, due to inflation. Motion made by Michael Douglass to accept the Treasurer's Reports (2021 and proposed 2022) as presented. Second by Nancy Solberg. Motion carried.

Elections

Board of Directors: Three members will be leaving the board and were thanked for their service: Tim Zauche, Diane Colburn, and Jen Bjorklund.

Re-elections and election of Board Candidates for Open Positions: Six positions available including three re-elections: Carla Stanton, Ellie Davis, Bryce Griffin for re-election.

New candidates for membership: Dr. Ann Marty (Viroqua), Michelle Hyatt (Trinity in Sparta) and Kristin Swedlund (Madison area). Motion made by Erik Bakken to cast a unanimous ballot to accept nominations and seconded by Nancy Solberg . Motion carried.

Farewell to Departing Board Member(s)

Nominations Committee: Motion requested for the formation of a nominating committee to go to the Board of Directors: Mike Larson made a motion with a second by Janet Torkelson. Motion carried.

Homework

Other Business: Participation in the volunteer work weekend was encouraged. Prayers are requested and those offered received with gratitude. Jesse encouraged us to get to camp to ‘Come and See.’ If we each recruit two campers we will meet the 2022 summer camp goal but Jesse enthusiastically encouraged we each bring 10 new campers to Sugar Creek this summer. Church groups of ALL types encouraged to come to camp.

Prize Drawing: All attendees’ names have been added to a drawing to show thanks to participants. A blue embroidered flannel goes to Terri Aakre. The grand prize for a stay in a modern cabin at camp was won by Brenda Martin.

The 2022 Annual Meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer led by Executive Director, Jesse Klosterboer.

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Lori Kleppe, Secretary