

Meeting Minutes for

Lynden Christian School Board

Jon DeJong, Chairman; Mike Smit, Secretary

Mar. 7, 2022 – 7:00 pm

LC High School Library

- I. Present: Jon DeJong, Kathryn Van Weerdhuizen, Leonard Smit, Brian Kooiker, Becky Bos, Lori TeVelde, TJ Mellema, Dan Gibson, Derek DeKoster, Darren Johnson, Lisa Kramer, Mike Smit, Paul Bootsma
Absent: None
- II. Call to order
 - a. Kathryn Van Weerdhuizen led us with devotions that included some thought provoking liturgies – the first one to help us with our work, and shared verses from Hebrews 13; Another liturgy challenged us when we are overloaded by too much information, and shared verses from Psalm 29.
 - b. We shared around the table - highlights, joys and prayer concerns.
 - c. Approval of consent agenda – Previous board minutes, Finance Committee, Tuition Accounts Committee, Transportation Committee as applicable, Building & Grounds, Education Committee, and Executive Committee minutes; plus Administrator Reports (as applicable)

Jon asked for approval of consent agenda with items noted - Motion carried by voice vote
- III. March Society Meeting – Agenda, Review, Final Preparation.
 - a. The agenda was reviewed, procedures affirmed, voting process was approved, and we clarified how ‘Members of the Society’ would be verified based on the new RCW rules.
 - b. In addition to the minutes from last year’s meeting, Mike will reference the 3 Informational Society Meetings that were held, note those dates and times for the record, and remind the Society that a full transcript of all speakers and the board response was distributed.
 - c. Leonard will lead the discussion on the budget, Dan will touch on changes to the RCW and oversee the nominations from the floor for the board nominating committee. Kathryn will walk the Society through the ‘high level’ version of the work that has been done on the Strategic Plan.
- IV. Board Visits to all three buildings – see Executive Committee minutes – Feb. 23, 2022.
 - a. Board Visits – We will re-institute board members visiting all three buildings. The three retiring board members will lead a team of 3 other board members to cover each of the three buildings.
- V. New Board Member Criteria – we identified key factors that the nomination committee will need to consider when we are replacing the three retiring board members: at least one woman/mom would be preferred since two are stepping off; someone with prior board experience as many board members are new; and a reminder that only one more member who is not a member of a Reformed church can be elected since there are already two members who attend ‘non-Reformed’ churches. There was discussion about important it is to get quality individuals with the gift sets needed to fill the positions being vacated by board members whose terms are ending.
- VI. Critical Issues Framework – presentation from Education Committee was given, led Brian Kooiker featuring the three elements that summarized the work of the Task Force:

- a. Theological Foundations
- b. Pursuing Healthy, Biblical Conflict Resolution
- c. The actual Controversial Issues Framework

NEXT STEPS - discussion was held on whether the staff has processed this fully and given the necessary feedback. **ACTION POINT: The board received the information from the task force and agreed with the concepts presented. The board asked Paul and the admin team to examine how this lines up with existing board policy and to bring back the statements within board policy or other LC documents and try to lay the key elements of the Framework proposal side by side with existing statements, before the board finalizes the final wording to be incorporated into our existing policy documents.**

- VII. We discussed the pros and cons of having a Pastors' Panel to discuss our human sexuality / gender identity, and sanctity of life statements. **Action Point: All Board Members will ask our individual pastors to review the existing statements above and bring back their input to our next meeting.**
- VIII. Final discussion was held on adding a public comment period to the beginning of board meetings. **Action Point: Motion M-S-P to create a time of up to 30 minutes at the beginning of our regularly scheduled board meetings for individual Society members to comment, beginning with the April 12 meeting: Three minutes max per person; sign up in advance. (Maximum of 10 people can sign up to speak and be in attendance at each meeting.)**
- IX. Superintendent's Report:
 - a. There are new guidelines coming out for how schools will operate once the mask mandates have been removed, but it appears most key elements will be recommendations, not requirements.
 - b. Once we have the information, Colleen will clarify what that means for our school and Paul will share with the board before it goes out.
 - c. Paul updated us on some personnel matters, and discussion followed.
 - d. **ACTION: After a lengthy discussion, Motion M-S-P to add a ¼ - ½ time Curriculum Specialist as submitted by Paul and the Director of Learning, to help guide and develop our curriculum. Position will be funded by a family donation designated to 'improve Lynden Christian education' and the position was approved for the 3-year duration of the donation. The position will be reviewed at the end of the 3 years.**
 - e. **ACTION: Motion M-S-P to accept a request submitted by an LC family for an exception of the policy of staff members' children must attend LC. They asked for the exception for their child to attend another school upon entering high school. Board reviewed their request and unique situation and approved the exception. Letter of a full explanation of the request is on file.**
- X. Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, Apr. 12, 2022
- XI. Adjournment
 - a. Meeting ended at 10:30 pm
 - b. Lori closed with prayer.

Approved: _____
(President)

Approved: _____
(Secretary)