

Leadership Group Minutes
Approved 11/5/2024
October 1, 2024 @ 7:00pm at AMC

Present: Cheryl Shreiner, Tom Kauffman, Trevor Daugherty, Karl Shelly, Sara Morris, Ben Sywulka, Moriah Hurst, Scott Coulter, Anna Yoder Schlabach, Maeve Smucker (taking minutes)

Opening

1. Opening by Cheryl - "Invitation" by Mary Oliver
2. September 10, 2024 Leadership Group Minutes were approved.

Discussion/Action

3. Prep for Oct/Nov 2nd Hour "AMC Involvement/Participation" Discussions - Sara & PT
 - a) Input from Elders (*see comment matrix*)
 - b) Scott to draft Google Form (*attached*),
 - c) Form Committee for Planning the Second Hours
 - i) The 2nd hour "AMC Involvement/Participation" discussion will be postponed from the fall to January as more time for planning the discussions is needed. **Scott, Trevor, and Ben will have a conversation this fall on what the next steps will be in January.**
4. Feedback from Reps on Elder Selection Process (*Attachment*) - Karl
 - a) **Leadership Group affirmed first two changes to the elder selection process: increasing affirmation threshold from $\frac{2}{3}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ for small group elder approval, and any concerns about a specific candidate can be raised privately to the Leader Selection Committee. Conversations about how to encourage balanced demographic makeup of elders will be tabled for now but will be ongoing.**
5. Safe Church Committee Formation (*Attachment*) - Scott, Moriah, Sara
 - a) **Leadership Group approved the proposal to create a Safe Church Committee.**
6. Next Congregational Meeting Agenda - Sara and Scott
 - a) October 20, 2024 (7pm)...This is the Sunday that starts Fall Break...
 - i) **In lieu of a congregational meeting in October, Ben will make a short video including updates to the elder selection process, school support updates, information on the approved proposal for the new safe church committee, and why there won't be a congregational meeting in October. [Update 11/5/24: Ben decided not to record the video because of feedback received to his announcement]**

Information/Reporting

7. Reminder for Elders writing the 2024 Congregational Report - Sara

a. Cheryl and Sara will work on this.

8. EV Charging Station + Funding of Solar Project - Sara + Scott

a) Finance Committee will meet in mid-October to discuss funding the Solar Project.

The conversation will be tabled until Finance Committee has met.

9. Welcome Statement Committee Update - Scott

a) **Scott will draft a document articulating why a welcoming statement is needed and what it will do as well as a draft of a welcoming statement. He will seek feedback from a few folks before bringing it to the congregation.**

11. Pastors' Reporting ([Attachment](#))

Closing

12. Prayer for the Congregation - Karl

Executive Session

Next Leadership Group Meeting: November 5, 2024 @ 7pm

~~Next Congregational Meeting: October 20, 2024 @ 7pm~~

Future Agenda

-Leadership Group Self-Evaluation (follow up from PCR Recommendations)

-Goals from Apr 23 LG Retreat: (1.Fostering internal community, 2. Involving the congregation in decision making, 3.Supporting the outside community)

-Recommendations from Pastor-Congregation Review:

*Vision for the next 3-5 years

*Review LG role and structure - more needs to be done here, in terms of LG self-evaluation

-Review Hospitality Goals

-Spring Retreat

-School Support

-LGBTQ+ Reparations

-Dismantling Patriarchy (ongoing work, follow up from 2022 Oct retreat)

-Impacts/Influences of COVID

-Fostering Emotional Connection

-Evaluate Members Needs/ "Emergency Funds" Policy

Minutes submitted by Maeve Smucker