

GSLC Finance Committee Meeting

April 10, 2023

Members: Tyler Gold, Gary Schmuhl, Kris Schmuhl, Adam Frey, Nan Schilling, Rick Blum (Staff), Diane Wenzel (Staff). Absent Greg Vlack, Sara Ritter

The meeting opened with prayer by Gary at 6:03 pm.

No questions from the committee regarding the February Financials.

The March financial revenues are still up due to Little Blessings Preschool (LBPS). The preschool is running close to full capacity. Currently, LBPS has two interim directors, and that will likely continue for the near future.

Former LBPS director, Devora Ballo, is now working as a grant administrator through December. She was able to write and find grants for LBPS in the past. Most non-profits have actual grant writers to be able to write and find grants. Would LBPS benefit from hiring a part-time grant writer?

It was noted that March expenses were a bit higher due to one more payment on the roof repairs for the Madison campus, the parking lot maintenance, and administration costs were up from last year due to adding staff requiring benefits. We also paid more in mortgage principal than expected.

Audit Policy

Discussion and review expense policy - Diane

Currently, our expense policy requires additional approval for purchases of \$100 or more, and Facilities needs additional approval for purchases of \$250 or more. It would be preferable if the dollar amounts could be increased to \$250 for all directors and \$500 for Facilities and Outreach directors. The following recommendation will be brought before the Board next week:

The Finance Committee recommends the purchase approval amount of \$100 be increased to \$250 for all directors except for Facilities and Outreach to be increased from \$250 to \$500. Gary made a motion, Adam seconded the motion, and the recommendation was passed.

Financial Statement and Dashboard

Mortgage Discussion (Rick)

The committee continues its monthly re-visit for the best timing of a mortgage re-amortization. We have not re-amortized yet. Rick commented that if we proceed with what's in the proposed budget, we will likely need to re-amortize.

Budget (Rick/Tyler)

Broad overview FY23/24: We are not expecting significant revenue growth. The estimated expenses in this proposed budget were mostly pulled from last fiscal year's budget.

Highlights of the budget discussion:

- LBPS tuition could hit \$200,000 in revenue this next fiscal year.
- Three staff positions are included in the budget. A full-time teacher at the Madison campus. LBPS also hopes to expand business hours to 7:30 am to 5:30 pm if another teacher is hired. The other positions are music director and youth assistant at the Verona campus.
- Facilities could use a replacement for the current delivery van. The current vehicle requires yearly repairs of about \$3,000. If a need for a minivan was broadcast to the congregation, someone might consider donating a minivan.
- Two estate gifts helped GSLC considerably during a tough time. Should GSLC venture into getting the message out about estate planning to the congregation?
- What expenses in the proposed budget might we pursue a grant from the Foundation to help with the budget numbers? Outreach would like a walk-in freezer to benefit the Food Pantry, a new shed to house lawn equipment and food pantry supplies, and a used minivan.
- Our existing phone system was moving out of tech support. GSLC is switching to a new system with Spectrum. A contract is for a 10-year system. We will be reducing the current 65 phones to an estimated 45.
- In late February, one of the two boilers at the Madison campus stopped working. Our tentative plan is to use the money we were going to use for the Air Handler (budgeted for \$125,000, we have about \$100,000). Or we could draw out of the reserve fund. In any event, we would need to go to the congregation with this decision.

The main question for GSLC's congregation and leadership is - Do we desire more fiscal comfort with less programming and a balanced budget or a budget that is balanced by using reserve funds?

The committee closed with the Lord's Prayer at 7:01 pm.

Submitted by Nan Schilling