

Launchpad Academy

September meeting

Tuesday, September 29, 2026 at 7:00 PM

Date: September 29, 2026

Location: Virtual

Attendees:

Randy Robert - President/Chair

Jennifer Ramsey - Treasurer

Ashley Espinosa - Secretary

1. Opening & Governance

President Robert called the meeting to order and confirmed that a quorum was present. President Robert led the board in an opening prayer. The agenda was presented and reviewed by the board.

Motions:

- Motion to approve the agenda as presented. Moved by Ramsey, seconded by Espinosa. Approved unanimously.
- Motion to approve the minutes from the August meeting (Sunday, August 23, 2026). Moved by Espinosa, seconded by Ramsey. Approved unanimously.

Action Items: None.

2. Officer Reports - President

President Robert provided an operational update:

Program Health (Open Gym) - PAUSED

- Emails were exchanged with the church, which appeared open to an in-person activity on site, such as an open gym or after-school program, but will not allow the organization to store any equipment.
- The lack of storage makes implementation difficult, as the open gym program requires equipment on site.
 - o The organization offered to upgrade the church's bounce house, which is too small for the group; communication stopped after that offer, and it is unclear whether this was intentional or an oversight.
- Decision: The church arrangement is not being pursued further at this time, as families are currently meeting at parks and running after-school activities through the YMCA and are not in critical need of this service.
- A recurring schedule of a couple of times per week is not viable under current conditions.
- Meet-ups and movie nights may be considered during the darker months (November through February), when church interest in that type of event may be higher.

Program Health (Venture Labs) - OPEN for testing

- The main blocker, SMS and phone capability (used to update parents and send reminders), has been approved and is now working smoothly.
- Payment gateways and messaging are connected, and there are no remaining blockers on the portal.
- The board may need to confirm the portal is running the highest model.
- The platform provides a monitored AI environment so that student activity can be supervised; the goal is for students to build projects with AI and develop community.
- Plan: Begin testing the platform, then market it and onboard users to identify bugs and provide feedback.
- A first dry-run class was scheduled for Friday at 1:00 p.m., with board members invited to log on and test the platform.

Action Items:

- Robert: Confirm the portal is running the highest model.
- Espinosa: Begin testing Venture Labs, then start marketing and onboarding users.
- Ramsey: Revisit meet-ups and movie nights with the church for November through February.
- Board: Log on and test the platform ahead of the Friday 1:00 p.m. dry-run class.

3. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ramsey presented the financial report:

Summary

- Beginning Balance: -\$13.68
- Incoming Funds: \$60.00 (donation from Randy Robert)
- Expenses: \$37.16
 - o Google Workspace: \$30.74
 - o ElevenLabs (AI model service): \$6.42
- Ending Balance (reported): \$9.16

Notes

- The current account balance is approximately \$8.00, with additional expenses pending.
- Approximately \$40.00 in donations is pending.
- Recurring expenses relate to the website and AI model services.
- Treasurer Ramsey noted some uncertainty regarding the attribution of certain expenses between the August and September periods. [to confirm]

Action Items: None.

4. Old Business

Platform Testing / Ticket Submission

- Board members were reminded to report errors and ideas using the bug and idea icons on the platform rather than attempting to resolve them independently.

Candidates for Additional Board Seats

- Ramsey reported no current candidates.
- Espinosa noted a potential candidate from the co-op (reportedly reliable, with a background possibly in child psychology) whom she plans to meet with and vet further.
- President Robert advised framing any recruitment conversation around fit and approval rather than persuasion.

Co-op Operating and Funding Model (Espinosa)

- Espinosa reported that the co-op funds itself through a small fee of approximately \$75 per child per year.
- President Robert noted that the organization's API costs are significant because they use frontier models, and that a monthly per-child fee may be more appropriate than an annual fee.

Action Items:

- Espinosa: Meet with and further vet the potential board candidate from the co-op.

5. New Business

Funding / Fundraising

- The board discussed charging a monthly per-child fee (approximately \$20-\$50) once the online platform launches, with an online-first focus to reduce the need for physical equipment.
- Ramsey reported she has been researching grant writing and was encouraged to pursue a grant where a suitable opportunity is identified.
- Ramsey proposed adding the organization to the Kroger community rewards program.
- Espinosa and President Robert indicated they would make or solicit additional donations, including from President Robert's clients.
- Ramsey agreed to post in her mom's group to recruit interest, coordinating messaging with President Robert.

Action Items:

- Ramsey: Continue researching grant writing and pursue suitable grant opportunities.
- Ramsey: Investigate adding the organization to the Kroger community rewards program.
- Ramsey: Post in her mom's group to recruit interest, coordinating messaging with President Robert.
- Robert: Solicit donations from clients.

6. Next Meeting

Next board meeting scheduled for October 15th at 5pm.

7. Closing

A motion to adjourn was made by Espinosa and seconded by Robert; the motion passed unanimously. President Robert led the board in a closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Ashley Espinosa

Ashley Espinosa, Secretary

Date: October 4, 2026 ET

Accepted by:

Randy Robert

Randy Robert, President/Chair

Date: October 4, 2026 ET