

Congregation Council Meeting
January 21, 2020
7:00 PM

DRAFT MINUTES

I. Call to Order at 7:05pm

A. Attendance: Rick Doty, Bob Stevens, Pastor Ric Elliott, Kathy Everleth, Dianne Justesen, Nina McNally, Denise Rohrbach, Tami Reichley. Mark Stanziola and Chris McGrath

Excused Absences: Molly Olszewski, Mark Blower, Sue Mathieu, Mark Binkley, and Pastor Spencer

B. Devotions: Bob Stevens

II. Approval of Minutes

A. December 17, 2019 Council Meeting - Motion: To approve December monthly council meeting minutes - by Rick Doty, second by Dianne Justesen **Approved**

III. Staff Reports

- With her internship ended and before ordination, Tami Reichley has started her new responsibilities which include her connection to Stephen Ministry, new member classes and she is meeting about and planning her ordination.
- Pastor Spencer is currently attending the ELCA Youth extravaganza.
- As a whole, the staff has put a lot of energy into Christmas, 2020 budget planning and the Capital Campaign.

IV. Mission Team Reports/Items for Council

Finance Mission Team– The Mission team wants to set up an online service agreement for the Mission Investment Fund. The planned strategy is to establish Sherilyn Scheetz (enrollment officer) and Deb Stevens (treasurer) as the online administrators of the investment account in order to access the account. A \$100,000 balance is needed for maintenance and this will be the amount where we will start. **Motion from Finance Mission Team:** To approve authorization to use the Mission Investment Fund online services. Second by Mark Stanziola. **Approved.**

Motion from Pastor Ric Elliott: For Tami Reichley and Pastor Spencer Steele to be granted the ability to access the Local Mission Fund. Second by Rick Doty. **Approved.**

Faith Formation for Children: Donations of gently used shoes for kids and adults are being collected as a service project.

Building Emergency Task Force: The Task Force had their first meeting on Jan 7 2020, including Chris Carter, Chris Pirrotta, Chris McGrath, Joe Sokolofsky and Eric Kahler. The

next meeting will be on Feb 12 2020 with the plan to add a female to the group for inclusivity/diversity. The team is using the Pennsylvania State Police report as a guide for next steps with the first items to implement being those related to entrance way and surveillance connected to internet. A primary focus of the team is safety related to the Nursery School. An additional focus is on the security of the building in early evening when it is open for meetings and evening activities.

V. Old Business

- A. Mission Statement Recommendation** – After discussion and review by a sub-group of Council representatives, the decision is to not revise the statement. **Motion:** Congregation Council recommends to the congregation to not revise the mission statement - by Dianne Justesen with a second by Chris McGrath. **Approved.**
- B. Minutes from Annual meeting for 2019** – Minutes will be presented for approval at the 2020 Annual Meeting.

VI. New Business

A. 2020 Budget

Motion from Finance Mission Team: Council to recommend the budget proposal, including a \$48K deficit, to the congregation at the Annual Meeting. Second by Chris McGrath. **Approved.**

B. Capital Project Proposal

The pledge numbers have not changed. A review of the potential building plans was completed by a group who met in the worship space to visualize what changes will look like based on proposed dimensions. For example, a 20 x 40 space was physically measured in order to see what a potential layout would be. The findings/observations were shared and discussed within Council.

Motion: To present the \$1.7 million capital project plan to the congregation for approval at the Annual Meeting – by Dianne Justesen with a second by Mark Stanziola. **Approved.**

C. Revised Constitution

If we want to remain part of the ELCA we have to adopt the asterisked items outlined within the revised Constitution.

Motion – To present the changes in Constitution to the congregation at the Annual Meeting – by Dianne Justesen with a second by Rick Doty. **Approved**

VII. Next Steps

- A. Council/Staff Retreat:** February 7-8, 2020
- B. Next Meeting Date:** February 18, 2020

VIII. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting - by Rick Doty with a second by Kathy Everleth. **Approved.** Meeting was adjourned at 8:49pm