

CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES

Date: 3/22/23

The March Congregation Council Meeting was held on Wednesday March 15th, 2023.

Council Members Present: Pastor Bannister, Harry Betz, Ashdon Bobbie, Melanie Boyer, Alan Divver, CJ Hamilton, Linda Morrison, Bob Muller, Shannon O’Neill, Barbara Quinn, Bruce Roper, Jenn Shaw, Barb Sheppard, Tom Smith, and Maryanne Sweeney

Absent:

Christine Casey, Trish Strauss

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Shannon O’Neill at 7:00 p.m. The scripture was read by Harry Betz and the prayer was offered by Linda Morrison.

PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL:

None

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

*It was moved and seconded to accept the minutes from February 2023 as presented without changes. The motion was made and seconded by CJ Hamilton / Ashdon Bobbie **MOTION CARRIED**

REPORTS:

President, Bob Muller – Attached. Bob Muller also explained that he challenged the congregation to try to bring someone to church, whether child, sibling, neighbor, etc. He also asked the congregation to approach Council members freely with any input.

Pastor Bannister – Attached. Pastor also spoke about the Kids & Family Ministry Team restructuring Confirmation classes. He would like to move forward with taking the first-year students and changing up the rest of the year to assure that they have everything they need, and confirming them. Next year would be a gap year and then the following year incoming 8th grade students would begin a new curriculum with eight very engaging classes with a focus on kids’ trust in Christ and preparing them for becoming members at St John’s.

Finance Committee – Attached. Harry Betz explained that we took in over \$2,000 for property improvements, but we were also over budget because we switched over the payroll schedule. In February, annual donations for FSA were paid for the year. By the end of the year, it will catch up and zero out. Our electric bill was exceptionally high compared to budgeted expenses. Harry

Betz will investigate this issue further to determine the causes of the large increase and report back next month.

*It was moved and seconded to accept the Finance Committee's report as presented. The motion was made and seconded by the Finance Committee / Linda Morrison. **MOTION CARRIED**

OLD BUSINESS:

- Vision Statement –Ashdon will be putting something up on the web site for people to submit suggestions. She has also solicited suggestions from the kids.
- 75th Anniversary – Shannon O'Neill is heading a task force and will hold a kick off meeting and is currently looking for locations and prices.
- New Council Members orientation will be sent to the new members by Shannon.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Vote on Constitution & Bylaws – Bob Muller went over the committees listed in the Bylaws, making sure we have them covered in one way or another and also looking for changes that may need to be brought to the committee for revisions to better represent what they do today. The synod will need to approve any proposed changes before they are made.
- Reinstitution of Treasurer position – We have not had this position for a while because Harry Betz was also the president as well as treasurer.
A motion was made to reinstitute the treasurer position with Harry Betz filling the position.
It was moved and seconded by Bob Muller /Alan Divver. **MOTION CARRIED**
- Discussion of Youth Representative(s) on Council – Abbie Metheny has been discussing with a couple young people about being participants in Council. They would not be voting members of Council but they would participate in meetings and provide feedback from a youth perspective.
- Updating Bank Account Signers – A motion was made to remove Denise Betz as an approved bank account signer and add Shannon O'Neill as an approved bank account signer. It was moved and seconded by Bruce Roper and Harry Betz.
MOTION CARRIED
- Bob Muller said we need to pick a date for the official call of Pastor Bo. Council discussed possible dates. April 16th was proposed, with May 21st as a backup. The ceremony will be held immediately after the service.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Constitution and Bylaws – No See report
- Kids & Family Ministry Team –See report
- Fellowship – No See report

- Community Cupboard Report –See report
- Memorials – No See report
- Mutual Ministry – No See report
- Property – See report
- Social Media – No See report
- Social Ministry – No See report
- Stewardship – No See report
- Women’s Ministry – No See report
- Worship & Music – See report. Jenn Shaw also explained that they are working on some music and performance pieces which will eventually get recorded.

A motion was made that we have two Easter dedications, one for a Woman’s place and the other for Luther Settlement House. It was moved and seconded by Worship and Music / Barbara Quinn. **MOTION CARRIED**

CORRESPONDENCE:

Request from Trish Straus to use fellowship hall for a ceremony and lunch for the Eagle Scouts from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., which includes setup and clean up.

A Motion was made to approve the building use request from Trish Strauss. It was moved and seconded by Alan Divver / Maryanne Sweeney. **MOTION CARRIED**

CARES AND CONCERNS:

Pastor Bo and council members shared their cares and concerns.

NEXT MEETING: Date: April 19, 2023

Meeting Leader: Bob Muller

Scripture: Pastor Bo

Prayer: Barbara Quinn

Refreshments: Jenn Shaw

*It was moved and seconded by Bob Muller / CJ Hamilton to adjourn the meeting at 9:51 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Roper