

Minutes for Meeting of Congregational Council, January 22, 2023

Jay called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall.

Present were Jay Crone, Carolyn Howard, Pastor Monica, Gail King, Andy Hansbrough, Carla Liversedge, Teresa Cassell, Elaine Belay, Linda Libey, Aaron Conklin, Ray Riggan and Karl Pedersen.

- 1) Pastor Monica led devotions with the theme of living respectfully WITH the land and respecting the balance of creation. A Land Acknowledgement to honor the Yesan and Tutelo peoples has been added to our bulletin.
- 2) Approving the Agenda-Consideration of the estimate for repairing the property lights was added to the property portion of the agenda and this revised agenda was approved by acclamation.
- 3) Election of Officers-Nominations for officers were: Carolyn Howard, President; Teresa Cassell, Vice President; Diane Catley, Secretary; Terry Hagman, Treasurer. Karl moved and Aaron seconded a motion to approve this slate of officers. The motion passed unanimously.
- 4) Consent Agenda-Linda moved and Teresa seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda and the motion passed unanimously. Jay thanked the council for being helpful during his presidency and turned the meeting over to Carolyn.
- 5) Unfinished Business-
 - a) Financials: The December financial reports and summary were not available. Carolyn asked a question about the Little Hokie Hangout rent figures being lower than they should be. Pastor Monica will check on it.
 - b) COVID-19 Task Force: Andy reported that there were no new recommendations from this group and there haven't been for a few months and recommended that this task force be dissolved. Pastor Monica moved and Elaine seconded a motion to dissolve the COVID-19 Task Force and the motion passed unanimously.
 - c) Policy for Children and Vulnerable Populations: We have been working on this policy for three years and guidelines are in place and this topic can be removed from our agenda. New council members will be asked to sign an agreement to abide by the policy.
 - d) Property Update: The flooring installation and painting in the LHH area have been completed. There are burned out lights on our signs out front and there are other issues with our outside lights. There was discussion of the flower beds needing maintenance; Aaron will check if the Scouts are willing to volunteer. We are in need of more mower volunteers. Bell Electric has submitted an estimate of \$4500 to put in dawn to dusk sensors for our outside lights and replace lights in the Narthex. Pastor Monica moved and Linda seconded a motion to approve this estimate and have them proceed with the work. The motion passed unanimously.
 - e) LMLC Strategic Planning: Congregational Care Committee will work on a draft of a plan to welcome and engage with visitors, new members and current members. We still need a coordinator for temple talks about reaching out to visitors and members and a coordinator for small groups with the goal of engaging the congregation in the planning for the future of our church.
 - f) The Well Call: Pastor Monica reported that an audit of our campus ministry will be conducted by the VA synod February 8-9. They will interview students and other LMLC members. We are hoping to be given a "green light" to proceed with forming a call committee to search for a new campus pastor. Pastor Monica will provide support for campus ministry in the meantime.
- 6) New Business-
 - a) Council conveners for committees were determined for 2023: Karl, campus ministry; Aaron, Finance; Ray, Property; Carla, Congregational Care; Diane Catley, Mutual Ministry and Personnel.
 - b) Call for accompanist: We are thankful to Jay for being our interim accompanist.
 - c) Pastor Monica's workload: Members are assisting Pastor Monica with tasks to help out while she is spending time for campus ministry.
 - d) Aaron reported that we now have Boy Scout Troop 704 and Cub Scout Pack 706 meeting at our

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church.

- e) Existing and Future Staffing Funds: We will continue to set aside the funds budgeted for campus ministry during the interim so that those funds will still be there when we need them. We will not reduce that item in the budget.

- 7) Pastor Monica closed the meeting with a prayer.