

Special Congregation Meeting, Sunday, July 30, 2017

Minutes Pending Approval

Meeting called to order 11:20 a.m. and opened up with prayer led by Interim Pastor Paul Lutze. Quorum confirmed at 42 voting members in attendance.

Minutes from the May 21, 2017 Spring Annual Meeting was accepted and approved.

Voting for the Call Committee members included the following elections:

- 1.) Cheryl Bauer
- 2.) Lois Erickson
- 3.) Pia Heiser
- 4.) David Hoecker
- 5.) Don Laven
- 6.) Sue Osborne
- 7.) Carole Rajan
- 8.) John Shepherd
- 9.) David Willoughby

Additional floor nominations:

- 10.) Hedy Rossmeissl
- 11.) Chad Smith
- 12.) John Johnsen

Voting resulted in the following membership of the Call Committee:

- 1.) Don Laven
- 2.) Cheryl Bauer
- 3.) Carole Rajan
- 4.) David Willoughby
- 5.) David Hoecker
- 6.) Chad Smith\*
- 7.) John Johnsen\*

\*An initial tie between Chad Smith and John Johnsen for the 6th spot resulted in a second tie. A motion was made and accepted to increase the Call Committee membership to 7 since we do not have a specific maximum number of members identified in our constitution.

Pastor Lutze indicated that a future Sunday date will be identified for when the elected Call Committee members can be installed. He also requested that we keep the Call Committee and pastor candidates be kept in our prayers.

Pastor Lutze shared some information regarding the candidate process.

Recommendations of a pastor from our congregation members can be submitted for consideration to the Bishop's office.

Pastors can self-nominate themselves from outside the Synod. However, the Bishop's office will determine the final list of candidates to be presented to the Call Committee.

Bishop office does not recommend "trial sermons". If Call Committee does want to do this, consideration of anonymity of pastor during the process.

Call Committee's work is confidential.

A Ministry Site Profile will need to be completed that includes what it is the congregation is looking for in a pastor.

Reiterated that the congregation in our annual budget meeting already approved setting aside \$10,000 for resources required by the Call Committee. Anticipates that some or all of this can be compensated by special donations and this will be mentioned in future upcoming bulletins. Aside from monetary contributions, hotel and/or flight points can be donated to help assist with what is required.

When it comes to travelling to visit a candidate pastor's location, the entire Call Committee doesn't have to travel, can be several members that visit and just report back to the Committee.

Pastor Lutze indicated that since Confirmation instruction is a crucial part of a pastor's role and has indicated that he will not initiate any new classes until the new pastor arrives.

Pastor Lutze shared that conversations for a joint Youth Ministry between Nativity and Gardens Presbyterian have already been started.

Pastor Lutze shared the outcome of the Special Magistrate Code Hearing held on 07/25/17:

Violations were around 3 main areas: Portables, Parking Lot and Dumpster.

City is giving us until 09/24/17 to take violations to resolution.

Kari Donnelly has received quotes for the fence and the dumpster which were accepted by the Council. Contractors are already applying for permits.

Kelly Rogers confirmed that we have received an offer from the City of Palm Beach Gardens to purchase all of our property for \$1,850,000.

More information and discussions will need to take place before a decision and/or response can be requested from the congregation. The Council will work on gathering more information.

A line of credit through Mission Investment Fund is currently pending. The expectation is that we will only borrow what is needed. We will probably request for special gifts other than contributions for our normal operating expense. We will share more with the congregation once we have more detailed information about the line of credit.

Pastor Lutze asked that members of the Call Committee remain after the meeting to discuss next steps and outstanding tasks such as the ministry site profile.

Meeting adjourned – 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernadel Sioson, Council Member at large