

Congregation Council Meeting Minutes
April 15, 2008

Members Present: Sandi Edgemon, Alan Hagensen, Mot Hedges, Carl Imhoff, Dave Wunschel, Bob Thompson, Mark Underwood

Ex-Officio Members: Pastor Martens

Absent / Excused: Norene Erlandson

Topic	Findings and Discussion	Conclusions, Recommendations, Actions, and/or Motions	Follow-up
Devotion & Opening Prayer			
Approval of Mar. 11 & 25 Congregation Council minutes		MSP – Approval of minutes	
Pastor's Report	Reviewed and discussed attendance, current financial statements, and ministry areas.		
Old Business			
a) Approve payment of routine obligations			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carl – Send routine obligations email to Council. • All – Discuss or approve via email.
b) Foundation of Faith Mini-Capital Campaign	Council members heard positive comments about the high-quality reception. The pledges total nearly \$140K to date.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pastor Martens – Ask Debbie S. to include a reminder in the bulletin and <i>Preview</i> for members to note whether their offering is for Foundation of Faith or regular offering so the office can track the giving to each.
c) Review and finalize Site Development Task Force Objectives	Confirmed the objectives and charge for the task force.	See the objectives on page 2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pastor Martens - Ask Debbie S. to write brief updates on the Site Development Task Force and Call process in the May <i>Preview</i>.
d) Determine the Site Development Task Force members	Discussed the characteristics of members and potential members for the task force.	Potential members will be asked to decide by April 30 if they can serve.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carl – Develop a letter outlining responsibilities and asking potential members to serve. • Sandi - Review/edit the letter. • Mot and Bob – Conduct follow up phone calls to potential task force members.
e) Determine the Building	Discussed the		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pastor Martens – Ask

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Finance Committee members	characteristics of members and potential members for the committee.		Debbie S. for input on other potential members for the Building Finance Committee.
New Business			
a) RLC Staffing Needs		Tabled until the May 13 Council meeting.	
Adjournment	Carl asked Council members to share what is working well for us and what we would like to improve. See summary below.	Next Congregation Council Meeting: 6:00 pm – Dinner. 7:00 pm May 13 at Pastor Marten’s home.	
Closing Prayer	Pastor Martens		

Site Development Task Force Objectives:

- Work with the architect through the discussion, design, approval, and building phases. 2008 – 2014. Identify architect options. – Summer 2008. Select Architect – Fall 2008
- Use the Long Range Plan and facilitate congregational discussions to recommend facility options to meet RLC’s ministry needs. Determine what is important to RLC members. Get congregation input on needs. Use multiple methods for input – surveys, group meetings, blogs - Summer/Fall 2008
- Research lessons learned and resources from ELCA and other congregations. For example, talk to Richland Baptist Church since it just completed an in-City building project converting lots to church facilities. – Summer 2008

What is Working Well for the Council

- We are working effectively as a team. We’ve had to deal with some big issues in the short time we’ve been together – purchasing the 1517 property, Pastor Schumacher’s resignation, and the building program.
- There is good discussion at meetings and support for differing views.
- Carl’s leadership and meeting facilitation skills help us reach consensus and decisions.
- The retreat and sharing time helped us understand each other better.

Areas for Improvement

- Each member expressed a need to connect with each other and stay engaged with Council business between Council meetings. Possible solutions include meeting over coffee between services on Sunday, email discussions, and impromptu lunches or breaks.
- Balancing the need for thinking and prayer vs. moving to action and decision is challenging. Sometimes we move too fast. Other times we move too slowly.

4/15/08 Congregation Council Action Items

Action	Responsible Individual	Due Date	Status
Get the card for the Council members to sign. It'll be in her RLC mailbox.	Sandi	3/12/08	Done
Obtain a gift from the Council for the Schumacher's.	Carl	3/16/08	Done
All – Provide Debbie S. the Foundation of Faith pledge cards	All	3/17/08	Done
Provide Carl questions and thoughts about site development to feed the Site Development Task Force.	All	3/25/08	Done
Ask Debbie S. to include a reminder in the bulletin and <i>Preview</i> for members to note whether their offering is for Foundation of Faith or regular offering so the office can track the giving to each.	Pastor Martens	4/17/08	
Ask Debbie S. to write brief updates on the Site Development Task Force and Call process in the May <i>Preview</i> .	Pastor Martens	4/17/08	
Develop and edit a letter outlining Site Development Task Force responsibilities and asking potential members to serve.	Carl – Develop Sandi – Edit	4/17/08	
Ask Debbie S. for input on other potential members for the Building Finance Committee.	Pastor Martens	4/17/08	
Conduct follow up phone calls to potential task force members.	Mot and Bob	4/22-25/08 – A few days after the letter is sent.	
Email the Council the list of routine obligations for Council to approve by email.	Carl	5/13/08	Carl will email this to Council members for approval by email.
Ask the Property Committee to provide recommendations to the Council. Provide	Debbie S.	On-going	

Action	Responsible Individual	Due Date	Status
monthly updates on their progress.			

Agenda Items for Future Council Meetings

- May – Discuss the Associate Pastor call process, RLC staffing needs, and call committee membership.
- May – Discuss Building Finance Committee membership
- June – Foundation of Faith Update from Debbie S.
- Junish – Retreat planning for Nov.
- TBD – Decide on Communion at all services.
- TBD – Discuss attendance trends.
- TBD - Provide recommendations on appointments to the Deaf Ministry and Preschool Task Forces.