

**Congregation Council Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2008**

Members Present: Sandi Edgemon, Norene Erlandson, Alan Hagensen, Bob Thompson, Mark Underwood, Dave Wunschel

Ex-Officio Members: Pastor Martens

Absent / Excused: Carl Imhoff, Mot Hedges

Topic	Findings and Discussion	Conclusions, Recommendations, Actions, and/or Motions	Follow-up
Devotion & Opening Prayer			
Approval of April 15 Congregation Council minutes		MSP – Approval of minutes	
Pastor's Report	Reviewed and discussed attendance, current financial statements, and ministry areas.		
Old Business			
a) Approved funds for visitors center desk	The Council approved this by email 4/30/08.	MSP – Approval of using \$1500 from the Lena Schock memorial fund for building a new visitors center desk in the narthex.	
b) Approved sick leave donation	The Council approved this by email 5/4/08.	MSP – Approval of Pastor Martens' donating 120 hrs. of sick leave to Maria Frame.	
c) Approve payment of routine obligations	There are a number of expenses the church pays throughout the year, many of which are monthly, that currently require approval by a ministry leader. This recommendation is to allow the payment of these types of expenses without such approval for two reasons. First of all, the expenses must be paid whether they are approved or not. Secondly, the individual who is usually responsible for approving the expenses is not always the most knowledgeable in regard to these payments. This motion	MSP - The treasurer and the church administrator be authorized to pay without additional approvals needed, those expenses that must be made to fulfill contractual and legal obligations.	

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	<p>would allow these expenses to be paid in a more efficient manner. Examples of the expenses are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Renewal Fee • Loan Payments • Budgeted Benevolence • Gifts for and due to Others • Board of Pension payments • Payments to Thrivent for 403(b) contributions • Utilities • Insurance Premiums (health, dental, etc.) • Federal Tax Payments • State Industrial Insurance Payments 		
<p>d) Summary of calls to Potential Site Development Task Force Members</p>	<p>Mot and Bob called RLC members the Council identified as potential task force members. Bob reported on those who are willing to serve if asked.</p>		
<p>e) Finalize the Site Development Task Force Members</p>	<p>The Council discussed additional potential members.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pastor Martens - Ask Joanne W. to send additional potential members a letter. • Bob and Mot – Conduct follow-up calls to additional potential members to ask if they are willing to serve.
<p>f) Determine the Building Finance Committee Members</p>	<p>Discussed the characteristics needed and potential members for the committee.</p>	<p>The Council confirmed the Building Finance Committee objectives as those outlined for the Fund-raising Task Force in the LRP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore and recommend appropriate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pastor Martens - Ask Debbie S. to review and provide input on the list of potential Building Finance Committee members. • Carl – Draft a letter for potential Building Committee members. • Norene and Dave -

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		<p>means of raising funds for large scale projects anticipated in this long-range plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore and recommend policy regarding the amount of money the congregation can prudently afford to borrow. • Study and make recommendations regarding the timing/scope of special fund-raising campaigns so that they do not overwhelm the congregation or undermine existing ministries. 	<p>Make follow-up calls and ask if the potential members would be willing to serve.</p>
New Business			
a) RLC Staffing Needs	<p>Pastor Martens shared the Associate Pastor job responsibilities and his desire to use staff members' ministry gifts and abilities more effectively in the various ministry areas. This may require reorganizing the ministry areas.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pastor Martens – Provide the Council job responsibilities for all of the staff positions. • All - Think about the staff's strengths and weaknesses and what ministry areas that would best fit their gifts. • Bob & Carl – Launch staff relations committee.
b) Discuss the Associate Pastor call process and call committee membership.	<p>Pastor Martens outlined his desired characteristics for an Associate Pastor.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All – Pray about the make-up for the call committee.
c) Property Committee Discussion	<p>The Council asked how the analysis of property use is progressing and requested detailed information about City ordinances for use and</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pastor Martens – Ask Debbie S. if the Property Committee staffing is sufficient. • Pastor Martens – Ask Debbie S. for

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	directives RLC has received.		directives we've received from the City about how the properties can be used.
Adjournment		Next Congregation Council Meeting: 7:00 pm June 10 in the Friendship Room.	
Closing Prayer	Pastor Martens		

5/13/08 Congregation Council Action Items

Action	Responsible Individual	Due Date	Status
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	Done
Ask Debbie S. to write brief updates on the Site Development Task Force and Call process in the <i>May Preview</i> .	Pastor Martens	4/17/08	Done
Develop and edit a letter outlining Site Development Task Force responsibilities and asking potential members to serve.	Carl – Develop Sandi – Edit	4/17/08	Done
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.	Done
Email the Council the list of routine obligations for Council to approve by email.	Carl	5/13/08	Done
Ask Joanne W. to send additional potential Site Development Task Force members a letter.	Pastor Martens	5/16/08	
Conduct follow up phone calls to additional potential task force members.	Bob and Mot	After letter is distributed	
Ask Debbie S. for input on other potential members for the Building Finance Committee.	Pastor Martens	6/10/08	
Draft a letter for potential Building Finance Committee members.	Carl	5/30/08	
Conduct follow up phone calls to potential Building Finance Committee force members.	Norene & Dave	After Carl drafts and RLC staff sends letter	
Provide responsibilities for all of the staff positions to the Council.	Pastor Martens	6/10/08	
Think about the staff's strengths and weaknesses and what ministry areas that would best fit their gifts.	All	6/10/08	
Launch staff relations committee.	Bob & Carl	6/10/08	
Pray about the make-up for the call committee.	All	on-going	
Ask the Property Committee to provide recommendations to the Council. Provide monthly updates on their progress.	Debbie S.	On-going	
Ask Debbie S. if the Property Committee staffing sufficient	Pastor Martens	6/10/08	
Ask Debbie S. for directives we've received from the City and ordinances about how the properties can be used.	Pastor Martens	6/10/08	

Agenda Items for Future Council Meetings

June – Foundation of Faith Update from Debbie S.

June – Update on Property Committee recommendations and discussion of City directives and ordinances for property use.

June – 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.