

RICHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES
August 11, 2020

Members Present: Janet Budzeck, Pastor Steve Ernst, Jenifer Haler, Jim Honeyman, Fred Kremmer, Kiane Lesser, Bill Peterson, Valerie Silva and Sandy Steele

Absent: Diane Bonin

Opening: The regular monthly meeting of the Richland Lutheran Church Congregation Council was held on Tuesday, August 11, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. via 'Zoom' due to the Corona Virus pandemic quarantine and opened by the president, Sandy Steele. Devotions and prayer were provided by Fred.

STAFF REPORTS:

1. **President's Report** – Sandy asked how council members were doing in light of Pastor Corey's resignation and encouraged them to contact her or Pastor Steve if they need to talk. She reported the COVID-19 Team is currently working to set up a Zoom Webinar so that a Special Congregational meeting can be held to vote on distribution of the Retreat Center funds. She also reported that the Audit Committee began their work in July, but have been unavoidably delayed so they are behind schedule at this time.
2. **Lead Pastor's Report** – Pastor Steve commented he has a meeting with the Praise Team tomorrow to see how they are doing and to discuss future plans. He has asked Jessica Schumacher to handle the logistics for the Praise Team and Kathy Umbarger to provide spiritual devotions for the team. Pastor Steve stated that in light of Pastor Corey's resignation, Kelly Westlund and Amanda Daniels will continue as assistant ministers and Susie Nunamaker will provide contemporary music for the live stream services.
3. **Financial Report** - Bill reported the church is still behind, but catching up and that regular giving has increased since the offering has been added to the live stream service.

CONSENT AGENDA: A motion was made, seconded and passed approving without discussion the following:

1. Council meeting minutes from the regular July 14, 2020, meeting
2. Special council meeting minutes from the August 4, 2020, meeting
3. Approve the date of September 20, 2020, for a Special Congregational meeting via Zoom Webinar to vote on distribution of the Retreat Center funds

Old Business:

1. Approve a date and time for the Congregational meeting – council members approved holding this meeting on Sunday, September 20, 2020, beginning at 12:30 p.m. to approve distribution of the Retreat Center funds.
2. Approve a date and time for a ‘dry run’ for the Zoom Webinar for the Special Congregational meeting – members approved the date of Tuesday, September 1, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.
3. Approve an amendment to the Christian Education Scholarship Policy - a motion was made and seconded to approve amending this policy. After discussing the reason for the amendment it passed with one abstention.
4. Identify three individuals as candidates to serve on the Nominating Committee – action on this was postponed to the September council meeting.
5. 2021 Ministry Plan and budget preparation - it was suggested that feedback for the draft Ministry Plan be submitted to the respective MALT teams before the September council meeting so the plan can be finalized and approved at the September meeting. After discussing the proposed budget provided by Bill for 2021, council members approved holding a special council meeting on Tuesday, September 1st following the Zoom Webinar ‘dry run’ to discuss and approve the 2021 budget.
6. Identify and approve a member for the Shalom Ecumenical Center Board to replace Rich Olsen - Jenifer volunteered to contact Rich Barchet for a description of what this position entails and e-mail it to council members so they will be more informed when contacting church members. A final decision will be made at the September council meeting.

New Business:

1. Discuss and approve revised job descriptions for the following:
 - a. Ministry Assistant for Christian Service
 - b. Traditional Music Coordinator
 - c. Ministry Assistant for Spiritual Transformation and worship
2. Discuss and approve the job description for a Contemporary Worship Coordinator.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the above listed job descriptions. After discussion took place, the descriptions were approved.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. Devotions for the September council meeting – Jenifer Haler
2. Preview article – Fred for August and Jenifer for September
3. August MALT meetings via Zoom: Worship on Thursday, August 27th at 11:30 a.m.; Spiritual Growth on Monday, August 24th at 5:00 p.m.; Christian Service on Tuesday, August 25th at 5:00 p.m. and Biblical Stewardship on Monday, August 24th at 4:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

An Executive Session was called at 9:00 p.m. to discuss the following:

1. Council portion of the budget, which includes:
 - a. Staff Compensation – Salaries and Benefits
 - b. Benevolences

A motion was made and seconded to approve the council portion of the budget. After discussing the motion, it was approved.

2. Constitution and Bylaws – A motion was made and seconded to accept the proposed recommended changes. These changes will be presented to the congregation for approval at the annual meeting on October 25, 2020.

3. Contemporary Music Coordinator position – Council consensus was to activate the Staffing Review Committee to begin looking for candidates for this position, after which council will discuss the budget and a hire date.

The Executive Session closed at 9:40 p.m.

ADJOURN:

Jenifer closed with a prayer, after which Sandy adjourned the Zoom meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Council Secretary Janet R. Budzeck