

RICHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES
March 10, 2020

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

Visitors: Bob Thompson

Opening:

1. The regular monthly meeting of the Richland Lutheran Church Congregation Council was held on Tuesday, March 10, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. and opened by the president, Sandy Steele. Devotions and prayer were provided by Valerie.
2. Bob Thompson provided copies of the temporary sanctuary lighting plans and explained the background necessitating the lighting project, which will be paid for with funds donated to Good News Media Ministry.
3. Sandy read the message in a 'thank you' card received from Mot and Pam Hedges and stated the Nominating, Audit and Compensation committees are now active.

STAFF REPORTS:

1. **Lead Pastor's Report** – Pastor Steve gave examples of the precautions being taken at the church to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and stated that due to this virus attendance at church services, etc. will be sporadic. He reported all of the tenants in the church's rentals have moved out, except for the tenant on the south side of the Stevens B house, who will be out by the middle of March. He also asked for prayers for the three families who have lost loved ones this week.
2. **Associate Pastor's Report** – Pastor Corey commented that the Visual Arts project is ongoing, but conflicting schedules have made it difficult to meet on a regular basis. He also remarked he continues to look for members to work with the Outreach team on the upcoming annual Block Party.
3. **Financial Report** - Bill highlighted areas such as memorials, restricted and non-restricted funds, the adjacent properties, etc. Diane stated she appreciated the financial breakdown Bill provided for The Preview.

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

1. Approve the minutes from the regular February 11, 2020, council meeting.
2. Approve the agenda for the Special Congregation meeting to be held on Sunday, March 15, 2020.

3. Approve the following 1st Quarter Benevolence gifts: \$15,000.00 to LCMC District, \$12,008.50 for LCMC National and \$16,205.10 for emerging ministries to be used as needed.

Old Business:

1. Special Congregational meeting on Sunday, March 15, 2020 to vote on the Retreat Center Funds distribution. Council members will host Hebrews Café.
2. Facilities Fundraising Committee Charter – a motion was made and seconded to approve the proposed revision. After discussing the change, the motion passed.
3. Christian Education Scholarship Policy – this was tabled to a future council meeting.
4. Review of Constitution/Bylaws:
 - a. Preamble: Jenifer and Valerie stated no changes were needed.
 - b. Chapter 1 – Name and Incorporation: Bill and Jim felt no changes were needed.
 - c. Chapter 2 – Statement of Faith: Jenifer and Valerie recommended revising the wording in section C2.04 to read: “We believe, teach, and accept the Apostles’, Nicene, and Athanasian Creeds as true declarations of the scriptural faith we confess.” Council members approved the revision. Pastor Steve shared that he added a scripture to each section.
 - d. Chapter 3 – Statement of Purpose: Diane and Kiane stated no changes are needed.
 - e. Chapter 4 – Powers of the Congregation: Bill and Jim provided copies of their suggested revisions. Council members approved the revisions.
5. Identify committee members for the following committees: Facilities Fundraising (2), 75th Anniversary Planning (4-5) and 2020 Visioning Team (5-6). The decision was made to have Biblical Stewardship MALT find new members for the Facilities Fundraising Committee, Jenny Page be charged with finding members for the 75th Anniversary Committee and Pastor Steve be responsible for the 2020 Visioning Team and then each entity submit the names to council for approval.

New Business:

1. Approve RLC Walkway Repair recommendation submitted by the Property Ministry Team – A motion was made and seconded to approve this project and for any future overruns expensed to Major Maintenance to come from Operating Reserves. After discussing the recommendation, the motion passed.
2. Approve the Temporary Sanctuary Lighting plans – A motion was made and seconded approving the plans as previously explained by Bob Thompson. With no further discussion, the motion passed with the recommendation that an electrician be hired as soon as possible to complete the lighting project.

3. Approve Liberty Christian School “Feed the Need Packing Party” Fundraiser – A motion was made and seconded approving this fundraiser, which only permits that a flyer be posted in the church for anyone who might want to donate to this cause. After clarifying what was included in approving the fundraiser, the motion passed.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. Keep in prayer the 2021 Nominating Committee selection
2. Tuesday, April 14th council devotions and Wednesday, April 15th Preview article – Bill
3. March MALT meetings: Worship on Thursday, March 26th at 11:30 a.m.; Spiritual Growth on Monday, March 23rd at 5:00 p.m.; Christian Service on Tuesday, March 24th at 5:00 p.m. and Biblical Stewardship on Monday, March 23rd at 4:00 p.m.
4. Sunday, March 15th Special Congregational meeting between services – council host Hebrews Cafe
5. Record Lenten devotions: Monday, March 16th (or before) – Diane; Tuesday, March 17th (or before) – Bill; Friday, March 27th (or before) – Fred and Monday, March 30th (or before) – Kiane
6. Tuesday, April 14th – Constitution/Bylaws review of Chapters 5-9

ADJOURN:

Sandy adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m. Council members closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Council Secretary Janet R. Budzeck