

RICHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES

March 13, 2018

Members Present: Janet Budzeck, Jenifer Haler, Dave Larkin, Todd Maier, Darrell Miles, Jeff Pilger, Tom Pitkin, Andy Ribbing, Pastor Corey Smith and Ted Stuenkel

Members Absent: Pastor Steve Ernst

Opening: The regular monthly meeting of the Richland Lutheran Church Congregation Council was held on Tuesday, March 13, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. and opened by the president, Dave Larkin. Janet Budzeck provided the devotions and prayer.

Communications/Visitor Comments: Pam Hedges shared the results they received from questionnaires sent out asking for a summarization of other entities experiences with Quality Sign Services, to which the results were all positive. Pam also provided specific details on the reader board, as well as a preliminary partial cost estimate to replace the existing sign on the corner of Stevens and Van Giesen. After council discussion concerning the project and its complexity, as well as gaining congregational acceptance, a motion was made, seconded and passed to move forward with the pursuit of a 12mm pixel two-sided reader board from Quality Sign Services. There was council discussion and questions on the complexity of this project and how to get congregational acceptance. Dave said he would have to check the policies. Pam will meet with the Foundation Board to find out if they will approve a grant to pay for all or some of the reader board. Future council discussions will address their financial obligation based on the Foundation Board's decision.

REPORTS:

1. **President's Report:** Dave commented on volunteer appreciation, congregation communications, the sabbatical for Pastor Ernst, council support activities and the Sunday School class he teaches.
2. **Lead Pastor's Report:** Pastor Corey reiterated Pastor Ernst's suggestion that council members read the book *'Sticky Teams'*, which was previously provided to them. He also encouraged council members to attend the first "Ministry Team Night" set for Thursday, April 19th, which the Connections Team is working diligently on.
3. **Associate Pastor's Report:** Pastor Corey shared information on the following:
 - a. Men's, Women's and Youth's ministry
 - b. Ladies in Fellowship Together (LIFT)
 - c. preparation for Pastor Ernst's sabbatical
 - d. formation of a Visual Arts Ministry Team
 - e. meeting of the Discipleship Team
 - f. suggested recommendations for first quarter benevolence

4. **Finance Report:** Jeff Pilger commented on the monthly income Statement as of February 28, 2018. See attached report.

ACTION ITEMS:

Consent Agenda:

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

- Minutes of the February 13, 2018 regular council meeting
- Reapprove the Council Staff Relations Policy, as is
- Reapprove the Common Consent Agenda Policy, as is
- Approve the Driver Affidavit Form with corrected e-mail address
- Approve the following Benevolence recommendations for the first quarter: LCMC District - \$10,105.25; LCMC National - \$15000; EEMN - \$4,000; Lutheran World Relief - \$1,000; World Mission Prayer League (General Fund) - \$1,084.20; Voice of the Martyrs - \$12,000; Mafraq Sanatorium - \$6,000; Wycliffe Bible Translators - \$1,000; Open Doors - \$1,000; Compassion International - \$1,000; China Connect - \$1,000; World Relief - \$1,000 and Tartu Academy of Theology (Estonia) - \$1,000

Bylaw/Policy Review: The following policies were approved:

- A motion was made, seconded and passed approving the Cell Phone Policy
- A motion was made, seconded and passed approving the Wedding Policy with suggested changes
- A motion was made, seconded and passed approving the Council Self-Governance Policy with suggested changes
- A motion was made, seconded and passed approving the Executive Limitations Policy

Sabbatical Leave Coverage:

- Interim Associate Pastor Job Description: Pastor Corey stated he and Pastor Ernst combined their efforts to provide this job description. After discussing the proposed description, a motion was made, seconded and passed approving the job description with one change – the first bullet under Conditions remove the words “Washington State” before driver’s license.
- Discussion/Action on job candidates: A motion was made, seconded and passed authorizing Dave to offer the Interim Associate Pastor position to Pastor Karen Gardner.

The motion was amended to include calling Reverend Jim Ayers if Pastor Gardner declined the position.

- Compensation for Interim Associate Pastor: A motion was made, seconded and passed authorizing \$30.00 per hour plus reasonable travel costs.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. Council soup supper on Thursday, March 22nd: Dave circulated a sign-up sheet for council members to provide what is needed.
2. April Policy/Bylaw reviews: Dave reviewed council members responsibilities for the coming month.
3. Lenten devotions request: Pastor Corey stated one additional person is needed to provide a devotion.
4. Janet stated she would not be at the April council meeting. Todd volunteered to take minutes at that meeting.
5. Dave informed those present of the 'Faith Over Fear' event scheduled for April 24th at the Columbia Basin College Gjerde Center.
6. Dave provided the Ministry Area Leadership Teams (MALT) meeting dates:
 - Worship – Monday, March 19th at 6:30 p.m.
 - Spiritual Transformation – Wednesday, March 21st at 5:15 p.m.
 - Christian Service – Tuesday, March 27th at 9:00 a.m.
 - Biblical Stewardship – Tuesday, March 27th at 5:00 p.m.

Adjournment: Dave adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m. and council members joined hands to close with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Council Secretary Janet R. Budzeck