

RICHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES

November 12, 2019

Members Present: Diane Bonin, Janet Budzeck, Pastor Steve Ernst, Jenifer Haler, Darrell Miles, Jeff Pilger, Valerie Silva and Pastor Corey Smith

Members Absent: Jim Honeyman, Dave Larkin and Kiane Lesser

Visitors: Russ Warren and newly elected 2020 council members Fred Kremmer, member-at-large; Bill Peterson, finance officer and Sandy Steele, president

Opening: The regular monthly meeting of the Richland Lutheran Church Congregation Council was held on Tuesday, November 12, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. and opened by the vice-president, Jenifer Haler. Devotions and prayer were provided by Valerie Silva.

REPORTS:

1. **Communications/Visitor Comments:** Russ stated he wanted to clarify the comments he made at the Congregational Meeting held on Sunday, October 28, 2019, with regard to distribution of the Retreat Center funds.

2. **Staff Reports:**

Lead Pastor's Report – Pastor Steve commented he has been working with the alphabet houses group concerning the approved demolition of the Kimball Street “H” house and the Stevens Street “B” house. He stated November is stewardship month, there are currently eight (8) small groups meeting, he continues to work on the new Code of Conduct Policy and the ministry descriptions for the 2020 Ministry Plan. Jenifer suggested a similar plan be used to describe the responsibilities of all council committees.

Associate Pastor's Report – Pastor Corey reported he will be working to expand the areas of prayer and outreach, highlighting the Block Party and congregation involvement. Upon completion of his report, council members joined in prayer for guidance.

Financial Report: Jeff stated benevolence is behind what was budgeted, but overall the church is on track for the year. He also gave an update on the Piton investment.

ACTION ITEMS:

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

1. Approve the minutes from the regular October 8, 2019, council meeting.
2. Extend Todd Maier's term on the Scholarship Committee through 2020.

3. Approve the Outreach Committee's recommendation to give to 2nd Harvest \$450.00 from the "emerging" benevolence fund to provide 15 Thanksgiving dinner boxes for local families at a cost of \$30.00 per box.

Old Business:

1. Update on Room 60 – Jenifer reported Meier Enterprises now has a signed contract to look at the issues currently in existence. They will provide CAD (Computer Aided Design) drawings, which will be submitted to Richland Lutheran staff to review and approve and return to Meier for finalization.
2. Plan for revisiting Retreat Center fund distribution – Jeff stated he spoke with Dan Jordheim to thank him for the team's diligent work and their recommendation to the congregation for distributions of these funds. He asked Dan if the team would consider continuing on to review the list previously provided and provide a revised list to the council. Jeff is waiting for Dan's response.

New Business:

1. Accompanist for children's Christmas program – discussion centered on the church's Personnel Policy, whether or not a background check needed to be done for children and what information is received when a background check is done. Council decided further review of the policy is needed and discussed at a future council meeting.
2. Community project – Jenifer remarked that Ellie Rosser proposed our congregation be involved in a weekend lunch program for Sacajawea School. This would involve providing two (2) lunches and snacks for a month. A motion was made and seconded to present this request to the congregation. After discussing the proposal, it was approved.
3. Staffing Review Committee – Jenifer reported this committee needs three (3) additional members. Council members provided suggestions for new candidates. After voting on the names suggested, Valerie Silva, Jeff Pilger and Marilyn Ball were approved. Jenifer will contact Marilyn to see if she is willing to serve on this committee.
4. Urgent Assistance Fund – Valerie wondered where additional funds would come from if this fund was running low. Pastor Steve commented that monies could be taken with council approval from the General Memorial Fund. Pastor will check with Lisa to find out how much is in the Urgent Assistance Fund.

CLOSING:

Jenifer adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Council members joined hands to close with the Lord's Prayer.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. Council Action List: PREVIEW article for November and December and council devotions for December.
2. Team Night – Thursday, November 21st at 6:30 p.m.
3. MALT meetings – Worship on Thursday, November 21st at 9:30 a.m., Stewardship on Monday, November 25th at 5:00 p.m., Service on Tuesday, November 26th at 5:00 p.m. and Spiritual Growth on Wednesday, November 27th at 4:40 p.m.
4. Executive Committee meeting on Monday, December 2nd at 5:00 p.m. and the regular council meeting on Tuesday, December 10th at 7:00 p.m.
5. Council/Staff Retreat – Friday, January 24th and Saturday, January 25th
6. Conflict Resolution Workshop – Saturday, February 22nd at 2:00 p.m. with Reverend Perry Fruhling with LCMC speaking at Richland Lutheran Church

Respectfully submitted by Council Secretary Janet R. Budzeck