

RICHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES
July 13, 2021

Members Present: Sandy Steele, Pastor Steve Ernst, Bill Peterson, Valerie Silva, Kristen Imhoff, Jan Leitz, Jeanne Dillner and Diane Bonin.

Absent: Fred Kremmer

Opening: The regular monthly meeting of the Richland Lutheran Church Congregation Council was held on Tuesday, June 13, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. and opened by the president, Sandy Steele. Devotions and prayer were provided by Jan.

Staff Reports:

1. President's Report-Sandy Steele

- a. Audit Committee is actively working and meeting on Thursday, July 15.
- b. Staff Compensation committee has been meeting and reviewing current compensation to determine if changes are needed.
- c. Nomination committee was still looking for financial officer. Please keep all three committees in prayer.
- d. New members luncheon is scheduled for August 15th, and council members are invited to attend and meet the new members.

2. Lead Pastor report- Pastor Steve

- a. Pastor reported on his two weeks of dissertation writing (including meeting with advisor once a week) and week of vacation. One-quarter of his dissertation is done. He expects to submit it in January for defense and to graduate in April.
- b. He is starting to talk to people about RLC's Ministry and Mission Planning team.
- c. The hiring team met with a prospective nursery worker and are in hope of filling that position soon.
- d. Pastor discussed the article from Christianity Today, and how things have changed for the church since COVID-19, and how it impacts our ministry plan, and the importance of receiving his call and listening for the Holy Spirit's guidance.

3. Financial Report- Bill Peterson

- a. Bill reported: Year to Date (Jan-Jun) Income \$428,124.00/51% of Budget; Expenses \$370.630.13/44% of Budget; Net Operating Income + \$57,593.87.
- b. Restricted designated funds-gifts- list was reviewed and categories cleaned-up. Gift acceptance policy-link policy to. Recommendations to Bill.

4. Other-

- a. Val asked about Pastor Sam's visitation to Kadlec concerns, as due to COVID he has not been able to visit RLC members. Pastor Steve will look- into it, with both Kadlec and Richland Rehab.
- b. Val talked about new information as to COVID-19 virus with new Delta variance.
- c. Discussed volunteer needs for worship services and the use of RLC's Church Community Builder.

Consent Agenda:

A motion was made to accept the consent agenda item without discussion by Bill and seconded by Jeanne. These items were approved by the Council.

- 1. Approve regular Council Meeting Minutes – June 8, 2021**
- 2. Approve Special Council Meeting Minutes-June 15, 2021**

Old Business:

- 1. Congregation Vice President Successor**
 - a. A current RLC council member at large was chosen to succeed Joel Sorensen who resigned as RLC Council vice president. Both Jeanne and Kristen were willing to serve in this position. After discussion and vote, Kristen was appointed as vice president.
- 2. 2022 Ministry Plan Preparation**
 - a. Sandy received feedback that MALTs are working on their plan's budgeted items for 2022.
 - b. Since COVID prevented our current annual Ministry Plan to be implemented, it is recommended that the ministry plan for 2022 remain the same. We will see where God is leading us, as we are working on unknowns at this point. Please relay this information to the MALTs.
- 3. 2022 Budget Preparation**
 - a. MALTs have been working in preparation for their 2022 ministry plan. The Council portion will need to be put together by Sept. meeting for Oct 31 annual meeting.
- 4. Ministry and Mission Planning Team**
 - a. Discussion to approve team members to this team has been moved to August.
- 5. 75th Anniversary Planning Status**
 - a. Kristen reported on the planning for the events of October 9-10. Crafts/goodie bags are being made and save the dates postcards will be going out soon.
- 6. Background Screening Process**

- a. After discussion, Val made a motion to leave responsibly to staff for developing a background screening procedure according to policy. It was seconded by Jeanne and motion carried.
- 7. Policy actions as recommended by Biblical Stewardship MALT:**
 - a. **Christian Education Scholarship Disclosure – Jan Leitz**
 - A short summary has been added to policy as a disclosure to policy. A motion was made by Bill to accept the scholarship policy as amended with disclosure. Jeanne seconded. The motion was approved.
 - b. **Gift Acceptance Policy- Fred Kremmer/Kristen Imhoff**
 - Changes to this policy were indicated. A motion was made by Kristen as amended with changes, with Bill seconding, and motion passed.
 - c. **Investment Strategy Policy – Bill Peterson/Jeanne Dillner**
 - The policy has been re-written to reflect actual practice and simplified. Motion to accept as amended by Jeanne, seconded by Kristen. Motion approved.
 - d. **Key/Code Holder – Bill Peterson/Jeanne Dillner**
 - no changes to this policy needed at this time.
- 8. 2020 Constitution/Bylaws Recommendations**
 - a. Sandy indicated the Council last year made many recommended changes. A review is needed, and vote required for the changes. The By-Laws require-one vote, the Constitution-two. Please review recommended changes by next meeting. Sandy will be sending them out for review.

New Business:

1. Member-at-Large Successor

- a. The nominating committee has a possible candidate to take Kristen's member-at-large position, and this person has been vetted. Sandy will be talking with the candidate, with the possibility of appointing the candidate to fill the open position.

2. 2022 Nominating Committee Candidates

Council will need to nominate three candidates to serve on the Nominating Committee for two years beginning 2022. These nominees will replace Todd Maier, Sue Meek, and Mark Underwood and will be elected by the congregation at its annual meeting. Please keep this in prayer and discernment for next month's meeting.

Information Items:

- 1. Devotions – Val Silva August 15
- 2. Preview Article due to Kelly – Jan Leitz July 15; Val Silva August 15
- 3. Council vacancy(ies) – Prayer and discernment period
- 4. 2022 Nominating Committee Candidates – Prayer and discernment period - replace Todd Maier, Sue Meek, Mark Underwood

3. March MALT Meetings: Worship 7/22 @ 11:30a; Spiritual Growth 7/22 @ 9:00a; Christian Services 7/27 @ 5:30p; Biblical Stewardship 7/26 @ 1:30p

Adjourn:

The meeting was closed with The Lord's Prayer at 9:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Council Secretary Diane K. Hahm Bonin