

RICHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES

June 8, 2021

Members Present: Sandy Steele, Joel Sorensen, Bill Peterson, Valerie Silva, Kristen Imhoff, Jan Leitz, Jeanne Dillner, Fred Kremmer and Diane Bonin.

Absent: Pastor Steve Ernst

Opening: The regular monthly meeting of the Richland Lutheran Church Congregation Council was held on Tuesday, June 8, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. and opened by the president, Sandy Steele. This was the first in-person meeting in over a year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Devotions and prayer were provided by Jeanne.

Staff Reports:

1. **President's Report:** Sandy thanked the council for their work over the previous months and commented on the return to the in-person meetings.
2. **Lead Pastor report:** Written report was provided but no discussion due to Pastor Steve's absence.
3. **Financial Report:** Bill reported that we are meeting our annual budget. He commented that the new report showing the progress of the budget to date as percentage of the annual budget has been helpful.

Consent Agenda:

A motion was made to accept the consent agenda item without discussion by Valerie and seconded by Bill. This item was approved by the Council.

1. **Approve regular Council Meeting Minutes – May 11, 2021**

Old Business:

1. **Ministry and Mission Planning Team** - Discuss/Approve Charter. Motion to accept charter was made by Jeanne and seconded by Kristen. The motion was approved.
2. **Policy actions as recommended by Biblical Stewardship MALT:**
 - a. **Facility Maintenance & Modification Policy** – Fred Kremmer/Kristen Imhoff. Definition of Parsonage in the policy was updated. Motion by Kristen and seconded by Bill to approve said changes to the policy. Motion carried.
 - b. **Gift Acceptance Policy** – Fred Kremmer/Kristen Imhoff. The MALT is still reviewing this policy, no action taken at meeting.

- c. **Investment Strategy Policy** – Bill Peterson/Jeanne Dillner. This policy is still being reviewed by the Finance Committee. No action taken at this meeting.

New Business:

1. **2022 Ministry Plan and Budget Preparation.** A reminder to address in your MALTS, as preparation for 2022 budget needs to be completed at the beginning of September.
2. **Approve 2nd Quarter Benevolence gifts** for \$17,971.80 as recommended by the Outreach Team: SONetwork \$2,080.00; Lutheran World Relief \$1,040.00; World Mission Prayer League (Gen. Fund) \$830.00; Voice of the Martyrs \$1,250.00; Annoor Sanatorium \$4,990.00; Wycliffe Bible Translators \$830.00; Open Doors \$830.00; Compassion International (where needed most) \$1,040.00; World Relief \$830.00; Tartu Academy of Theology/Home of Hope (Estonia) \$1,675.00; Global Health Ministries \$415.00; Food for the Poor \$415.00; Christmas Shoe Project \$496.80; Ethnos 360 – Arnold Family/Mexico \$1,250.00. Val discussed committee decision to continue all organizations supported last year. Motion made by Bill and seconded by Jeanne to approve these gifts. Motion carried.
3. **Approve policy actions as recommended by Biblical Stewardship MALT:**
 1. **Key/Code Holder** – Bill Peterson/Jeanne Dillner. This policy will be reviewed in July by the Council.
 2. **Urgent Assistance Fund** – Bill Peterson/Jeanne Dillner. Council recommended no changes. Approved by consent.
 3. **Transportation** – Diane Bonin/Val Silva. No changes were needed and approved by consent.
 4. **Weddings** – Diane Bonin/Val Silva. Addendum for Wedding and Reception Facility Request being added to the policy. Motion by Diane and seconded by Kristen to make this change. Motion carried.
 5. **Christian Education Scholarship** – Joel Sorensen/Jan Leitz.
 - Motion by Bill and seconded by Jeanne to continue the Christian Education Scholarship. Motion carried.
 - MALT has recommended no change to policy (degrees to be ministry related), however Council would like an addendum attached with the history of the scholarship policy. Motion made by Jeanne and seconded by Bill. Motion was approved.
 6. **Personnel Policy & Guidelines** – Joel Sorensen/Jan Leitz. Kristen made motion to include in this policy background check requirement for Council members and Diane seconded. Motion carried. Sandy agreed to research best practices for conducting satisfactory background checks as compared to current procedure used by RLC.

Information Items:

1. Devotions – Jan Leitz July 13
2. Preview Article due to Kelly – Jeanne Dillner June 15; Jan Leitz July 15
3. 2022 Nominating Committee Candidates – Prayer and discernment period - replace Todd Maier, Sue Meek, Mark Underwood
4. Scholarship Policy – Prayer and discernment
5. Background Screenings for Council Members – Prayer and discernment
6. June MALT Meetings: Worship 6/24 @ 11:30a; Spiritual Growth 6/24 @ 9:00a; Christian Services 6/22 @ 5:30p; Biblical Stewardship 6/28 @ 1:30p

Adjourn:

The meeting was closed with The Lord's Prayer at 8:50.

Respectfully submitted by Council Secretary Diane K. Hahm Bonin