

RICHLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATION COUNCIL MINUTES
May 11, 2021

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

Opening: The regular monthly meeting of the Richland Lutheran Church Congregation Council was held on Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via 'Zoom' due to the Corona Virus pandemic quarantine and opened by the president, Sandy Steele. Devotions and prayer were provided by Fred.

Staff Reports:

1. **President's Report:** Sandy reported on the following-
 - a. Orientation video #5 on finances has been recorded by Bill and Lisa and is now available in the Drop Box and on You Tube.
 - b. Graduates-Amanda suggested gift cards from fast food restaurants or coffee shops, a congratulatory card or water bottles, to recognize our graduates.
 - c. COVID-19 Reopening survey results discussed.
2. **Lead Pastor report:** Pastor reported-
 - a. Personnel Policy and Background checks. This policy is due to be reviewed in June. Further discussion at our next meeting. Council members were asked to research the topic, pray, and discern on this policy.
 - b. Orientation videos for Council being produced. If you have additional ideas for video topics, please let Pastor know. Videos are being produced and distributed monthly.
 - c. All three services starting June 6. Council members are asked to assist.
3. **Financial Report:** Bill reported-
 - a. RLC is doing well financially for April and our Jan-Apr YTD. Our Income for the period Jan-Apr 2021 was \$310,696.00; our Expenses were 254,977.00 based on a Budget of \$274,175.00; we have a Gain of \$55,494.00 to date.

Consent Agenda:

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

1. **Approve regular Council Meeting Minutes – April 13, 2021**

Old Business:

1. **Approve purchase of Bipolar Ionization Filtration System as recommended by COVID-19 Reopening Team and Biblical Stewardship MALT**
 - a. COVID-19 reopening team and Biblical Stewardship MALT recommended acceptance of \$8,003.28 bid from Campbell & Co. for the Bipolar Ionization Filtration system. Bill motioned and Kristen seconded purchase of the system. Motion carried. Bill is working on a Preview article to inform the congregation of the purchase.
2. **Ministry and Mission Strategic Planning Team**
 - a. Discuss/Approve formation of team: Motion made by Bill and seconded by Jan to form the team. A suggestion during discussion was made to change the name to the Ministry and Mission Planning Team. Bill amended his motion to include the new name, and it was seconded by Jeanne. The Motion carried. Pastor will facilitate the team and council members Bill and Val volunteered to be part of the team. Jeanne will also consider.
 - b. Discuss/Approve Charter: this topic will be acted on at a future Council meeting. Members were asked to inform themselves on the draft charter emailed to them.
3. **Approve Policy Actions as recommended by MALTs**
 - a. **Adjacent Properties Policy** (Biblical Stewardship) – Fred Kremmer/Kristen Imhoff: This policy was reviewed by the MALT and Council. Recommendation was to retire the policy, and consensus by the Council to do so.
 - b. **Facility Maintenance & Modification Policy** (Biblical Stewardship) – Fred Kremmer/Kristen Imhoff. This policy is being revised to include information about the parsonage that was included in the Adjacent Properties Policy that was retired. The policy is being revised by the MALT and is expected to be reviewed by the Council in June.
 - c. **Facilities Use Policy** (Biblical Stewardship) – Diane Bonin/Val Silva. Review by the MALT and Council for additions to the policy to include the Host Checklist and addition of addendums. Motion made by Kristen and seconded by Bill to accept changes. Motion carried.
 - d. **Soul Care Policy** (Spiritual Growth) – Diane Bonin/Val Silva: Changes to wording with clarification to pastoral sabbatical leave. Motion made by Kristen, seconded by Bill. Motion approved.

New Business:

1. **Approve Policy Actions as recommended by Biblical Stewardship MALT**
 - a. **Financial Policy** – Bill Peterson/Jeanne Dillner: Changes were made to this policy for record keeping and financial planning and reporting. A

motion was made by Bill to accept changes and seconded by Jeanne. Motion carried.

- b. **Funding, Money Gathering & Membership Lists Policy**– Fred Kremmer/Kristen Imhoff: A review of this policy showed no changes were needed, and a consensus by the Council agreed.
 - c. **Gift Acceptance Policy**– Fred Kremmer/Kristen Imhoff: This policy is being sent to the Biblical Stewardship MALT for review.
 - d. **Investment Strategy Policy** – Bill Peterson/Jeanne Dillner: This policy review is moved to June.
2. **Congregation Feedback Process**: Discussion as to importance of listening for feedback from members; be curious, develop relationships, use of Hebrew Café, Preview article to encourage and receive feedback, and Website feedback. Best way to get feedback is an ongoing fluid process. Listen and bring feedback to council meeting.

Information Items:

1. Devotions – Jeanne Dillner June 8
2. Preview Article due to Kelly – Fred Kremmer May 15; Jeanne Dillner June 15
3. Scholarship Policy – Prayer and discernment for June review – Joel/Jan
4. Policy Review June 8 – Key/Code Holder; Personnel Policy & Guidelines; Christian Education Scholarship; Transportation; Urgent Assistance Fund; Weddings
5. Begin 2022 Ministry Plan and Budget Prep – MALTs/Council
6. March MALT Meetings: Worship 5/27 @ 11:30a; Spiritual Growth 5/27 @ 9:00a; Christian Services 5/25 @ 5:30p; Biblical Stewardship 5/24 @ 1:30p

Adjourn:

The meeting was closed with The Lord's Prayer at 9:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Council Secretary Diane K. Hahm Bonin

