

Council Meeting Minutes
May 16, 2023

Minutes Approved
20 June 2023
Marlene Kiser

Meeting Called to Order at 6:05 PM by Chet Madison

Opening Prayer was provided by Clarence Korhonen.

Present: Chet Madison; Peggy Moser; Kirsten Ireton; Marlene Kiser; Cathy Davis; Laura Tice; Clarence Korhonen; Faith Thomas; Punky Dias; Paul Maki; Shirley Prouty

Absent: Pastor Brian Hiortdahl; Linda Duffek; and Carole Vance.

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by Kirsten Ireton to accept the April 18, 2023, Council Meeting Minutes with the reported corrections, and seconded by Faith Thomas. Motion passed unanimously.

Board Reports:

Chet Madison, Council President has requested that all board chairpersons provide their board meeting minutes by no later than the Friday before the monthly Council Meeting. If your board meets after that Friday but before the Council meeting, please try to get your meeting minutes in as soon as possible. This will allow all chairpersons to review the board reports and direct any questions to the respective board chairperson for clarification.

Financial Secretary Report:

- Paul Maki reported that Jack Fenske has been working on the graphs being presented by the Finance Committee.
- The graphs have been part of the Financial Secretary Report in the monthly News & Views letter since April.
- Paul Maki indicated that quarterly the Financial Board will be available for Q&A after a church service to answer members questions or concerns on the church finances.

Special Funds:

- Connie Reule had a question about if the Community Concerns Board or the Education Board will be using the current special funds available?
- The Community Concerns Board is making plans for a July Fourth Free BBQ hot dog & ice cream event to take place during the Annual Fireworks Sale. FYI: The Church Fireworks booth this year is going to be on the grounds of the church (St. Luke Lutheran Church of Sacramento, California).
- Peggy Moser said she would ask the children in Sunday School what they would like to do with the special funds available for the Education Board?

Property Board:

- Clarence Korhonen reported as part of the Grant from the California Office of Emergency Services (OES) that the property board was still working on church name concerns OES had with St. Luke Lutheran Church of Sacramento, California. The concern between California State and 501(c)(3) of the ELCA is resolved, both now indicate that the name of the church is St. Luke Lutheran Church of Sacramento, California.
- The last hurdle to get over is with the IRS. IRS has the name: St. Luke's Lutheran Church with the correct Employer Identification Number (EIN). Still more to come on this resolution with the name with the IRS.
- Documentation provided by ELCA: Copy of letters from the IRS from April 5, 1988 & July 13, 1988; and Certification of Federal Income Tax Exemption Under Section 501(c)(3) are to be placed in the Church Office Binder holding the Church Constitution & P&P Documents.

Action Items:

- P&P-2018-1 Managing Bank Accounts:
- Kirsten Ireton reported on this Finance Board P&P. Verbiage added for VANCO donation for definition and how they are handled.
- Definition of what a VANCO donation is – platform used by member to facilitate electronic donations to the General Budget or Special Funds.
- How is the donation handled - it is deposited directly into the Receiving Account and then transferred to the appropriate account by the Treasurer.
- A motion was made to approve the changes made for P&P-2018-1 "Managing Bank Accounts", by Peggy Moser, and seconded by Shirly Prouty. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

1. Pre-Identification of Bishop Candidates

- Chet Madison reported that along with Pastor Brian Hiortdahl, they attended a workshop on Saturday, May 6, 2023. The workshops entailed: a) how the Sierra Pacific Synod (SPS) selects the bishop candidates, b) how they are picked, and c) putting forward 5 names from Conference 3, Capital Valley Conference of the Sierra Pacific Synod (St. Luke Lutheran Church of Sacramento, California is part of Conference 3).
- Workshops also included discussion concerns with the transparency of the Synod's leadership and submitting 4-5 questions to committee that Conference 3 has for the Sierra Pacific Synod.
- The Sierra Pacific Synod over the summer will be vetting all candidates submitted for bishop.
- Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly is in Burlingame, California this year on September 15-17, 2023. Five to six candidates for Bishop will be presented at the Synod

Assembly with the goal to elect a new Bishop. The church can send to the assembly two lay voting members along with Pastor Brian Hiortdahl.

2. Chet Madison discussed "What is our Responsibility as a church council."

- A. Currently who and what is the church council:
- Our church is a small congregation.
 - Our church has 14 members on the church council.
 - The church council should have clarity in what their responsibility is.
- B. Goals for each church council boards:
- 1 to 5-year plans.
 - 5 to 10-year plans.
 - Vision for their specific board for the future.
- C. Ideas for boards:
- What does your board do and communicate the vision to the church.
 - What would the board like to do, include how much this may cost. This cost should be presented as a budget request for the board.
- D. More information is to be discussed in the next council meetings.

Closing Prayer by: Peggy Moser

Meeting adjourned at: 7:15PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Marlene Kiser
Council Secretary
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