

St. Luke's Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2023

Minutes Approved
21 November 2023
Marlene Kiser

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm by Council President, Chet Madison.

Opening Prayer: Pastor Carl Hoppman

Present: Pastor Carl Hoppman, Chet Madison, Clarence Korhonen, Peggy Moser, Punky Dias, Faith Thomas, Linda Duffek, Cathy Davis, Paul Maki, Shirley Prouty, Laura Tice, Kirsten Ireton, Karen Linfor (for Marlene Kiser). Absent: Marlene Kiser, Carol Vance

Approval of September, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes:

Motion to approve: Punky Dias, seconded by Peggy Moser. Motion carried.

Board Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Kudos to Kirsten on the line-by-line breakdown of the budget. Thanks to all, the 2024 budget reports have been submitted to the Treasurer.

Kirsten stated that the Finance Board has spent time discussing projected income, which is up from the current fiscal year, however, we are still dependent on the fireworks reserve funds. Projected General Fund Income without the fireworks reserve dependency is \$186,520. Last year our General Fund income including fireworks was \$189,250. That is with \$26,000 in general funds income from reserve and fireworks. Our budget continues to grow, based on envelope, loose cash offerings and VANCO giving, which is \$180,000.00 in those 3 giving categories. Going forward we will have two election polling places, bringing in \$1600.00. We are on the conservative side regarding our regular facility use, budgeting approximately \$270/month.

Our October income for the first 3 weeks is approximately \$18,000.00, trending upwards of \$21,000.00. That includes some quarterly giving, as well as some special gifts this month.

For budget projections, with unknown pastoral wages, budgeting the same as last fiscal year.

Expenses: Hopefully more will be known by next month regarding Assembly Bill 506, the requirement by the Department of Justice that every employee, and everyone who works with children, must have a background check and fingerprints done. This is a one-time expense. Hopefully a completed 2024 budget will be ready for review at the November Council meeting. Working hard on it, with a \$16,000.00 gap to close.

Chet stated that it's very important that all understand the necessity of our budgeting process.

Kirsten expressed her appreciation of all the work each board did to get their report in.

She stated that expenses such as natural gas, and electricity were "through the roof". This has caused a budget increase of from ~\$2,000.00 to \$4,000.00. There doesn't appear to be any release from this going forward.

Chet stated that everyone needs to be mindful of our individual meetings, making sure that everything is turned off when meetings are ended. Don't rely on the timer, flip it to "OFF" as you leave. Chet also suggested that a "Check List" should be made available for any group using our facility, beginning immediately. Time, Date, initials mandatory; checking lights, A/C, etc. Linda will see to this.

Finance: Paul Maki stated that there are a lot of unknowns when creating a new budget. Our top line is the salary of the pastor, which we have already discussed. Chet suggested a ¾ pastor might be the way to go, and it would be better to do that than be sorry.

No further questions on the budget.

Kirsten asked that any outstanding receipts promptly.

Facility Use:

Linda Duffek, in keeping with the use of our facility, stated that the AA group who has been meeting here, is leaving in November, moving to a location closer to the North area.

There is also another church and the N/A group who uses Schultz Hall. Linda will make sure these groups are in compliance with turning off lights, fans, stoves, etc.

Kirsten and Cathy offered to assist Linda with this area.

Chet discussed a recent conversation he had with Pastor Ron Zoesch regarding the church he sometimes assists, and even though they are a small congregation ~15, 20 people, they keep working and staying busy, planning a “Trunk or Treat” event this month. They have indicated that they may be inclined to join with our congregation. From Chet’s perspective, we need help from the Synod, to talk to the leaders of that church. Peggy stated that there are nine children in Sunday School now! “Bring in the kids, the parents will follow”!

Property Board: Kudos to Jack for putting together a broad budget perspective.

Also, thank you to Clarence, Bill Meyers ¹and Jack for their work on the location of the camera. Chet asked about fence. Clarence stated that the PB is working with the City to get a permit for the gate. There are some hang-ups, waiting for a response from the City.

Peggy stated that the ladies are planning to paint the front office of the church, and Room 4. End date hopefully December 1st. The ladies will be absorbing the cost, no cost to the Property Board. No cost for the paint. Laura Tice indicated that Justin may be available to assist.

WELCA: See Old Business

New Business/Action Items:

Youth/Education: Laura Tice: Request for reimbursement: Budget is \$200.00, and we’re at \$235. Kelly Boyer spent \$44.57 on material for her classroom, so requesting approval to pay Kelly. Peggy moved for approval of Kelly’s receipt, Linda seconded.

A second request from Education for winter supplies needed for next year in the amount of \$125.64. Laura’s motion for this amount, seconded by Kirsten. Motion carried.

Request for postage reimbursement by Kirsten: Budget was \$50.00, receipt for \$39.60.

Motion to reimburse made by Kirsten, seconded by Laura. Motion carried.

Chet suggested a lock-box to secure the stamps.

Old Business: Punky commented that the October 7th Fall Festival was very successful. Great job by all who helped out. Kudos to Kathy Arndt.

¹ Added Bill Meyers under Property Board Notes per Marlene Kiser

Pastor Carl: Thanksgiving Eve service. Since our current Sunday services are trending upwards, Pastor feels that an evening service may not bring many folks out. Pastor has met with the Evangelism Board, suggesting that we have our pie time after the Thank Offering service, the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Pastor will put this notice in the November *News & Views*. Left-overs will go to the “NaraThon”.

New Business:

The Call Committee plans to meet on the 26th in Room 5 with Pastor Amanda and Ron Valdez. Plan is to go into detail regarding a team pastor that they may have, including an interview with the individual they have in mind.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55pm, closing prayer, Pastor Carl
Respectfully submitted,
/ss Karen A. Linfor