

First Lutheran Church Council
Tuesday, Jun 12, 2018
James Bjorge Adult Education Room
MINUTES

Attendees: Sindy Keller, Kathy Helming, Marianna Malm, Jane Nelson, John Bennett, Chris Kraemer, Dave Rogness, Loren Stahl, Gary Inman, Danelle Kjar, Daniel Damico, Pastor Laurie Neil, Pastor Corey Bjertness, Pastor Dave Adams, Pastor Bill Ahlfeldt, Terry Yoney and Missy Froeber.

Gary Inman opened the meeting.

The Mission and Vision statements were read. Pastor Corey prayed us into the meeting.

Consent Agenda

Reports and minutes were emailed to the Council. Marianna Malm motioned to accept the Consent Agenda. Chris Kraemer seconded. Motion approved.

Financials

Danelle Kjar reported on the financials. We are \$22,000 short in income for May. An ask letter went out, but there has not been a big response as of yet. Pastor Corey mentioned we have \$250,000 in savings and will touch more on this during the Budget report. Loren Stahl motioned to accept the financials. Kathy Helming seconded. Motion approved.

Pastor's Report

We had 41 High School Seniors graduate this year. The Ecuador Book and Bake sale made \$959. The Blood Drive donated over 15 units with 4 first time donors and 1 high school student. Chet Levenson received a blanket from United Blood Services for having donated 25 gallons over the years. The Belong Class had 7 new members.

Special Focus: Budget

Pastor Corey went over the preliminary budget and pointed out a few areas. We will finish approximately -\$103,000 for the year and project to finish -\$69,000 for next year. While giving is on par with last year, we have not gained ground and the budget has been forecast to be larger to accommodate growing needs. However, the Columbarium income has not been included in the budget. Pastor Corey asked for thoughts from the Council. After discussion, the Council decided we should build the budget conservatively at 50 niches. The budget will be adjusted accordingly.

Staff salaries which have been budgeted lean. The budget does not figure in for a parish nurse. Pastor Corey and Pastor Laurie will ask Katie Kringstad if she would be willing to be part-time nurse as well as Children's Ministry Director. The Intern program may be cut. The snow removal cost has been taken out of the budget as Chris Weir will donate all snow removal as his way of giving back to his church.

Pastor Corey proposed 2 ideas to help with this year's deficit. Idea #1 is to use \$75,000 from the \$250,000 in savings to cover part of the \$103,000 deficit. Idea #2 is for Pastor Corey to write a letter to the top 100 or so donors explaining the situation and asking them to give. After discussion, the Council

decided we should do idea #2 and ask for the full \$103,000 and then use idea #1 to fill in what we do not receive.

Master Ministry Plan

Pastor Corey asked that the Council take the Plan home and read through it. This is only Version 1. At the July meeting we will go through the Plan more thoroughly as well as finalize the Budget.

Old Business:

Building Update - Terry Yoney reported that the stained glass windows and the pews have been safely stored and the new chapel ceiling has already been started. It is taking longer to detach the various electrical, sewer, water, AV etc in order to tear down walls than previously thought so some aspects of the construction have been moved up to compensate this delay in the time frame. The construction walls are up, the stairway has been removed and the steel beam will be installed in the gym next week. A time capsule has been discovered and will be brought to the July meeting where Council will open it. We will discuss additional items to add to the capsule and a re-burial ceremony for the whole congregation.

Council Task Force – The meeting was lightly attended. Pastor Corey handed out a Committee, Task Force and Ministry Team Guidelines manual. Garry Inman will have the Various Committees update their descriptions and purpose. Terms for committees will be standardized.

Foundation/Endowment – Pastor Corey and Dave Rogness met with Gary Hanson of Heartland Trust who assured them the Foundation could handle a Restricted Endowment fund and he will discuss this with the Foundation in July. Dave Rogness, Larry Audette and Pastor Corey will meet after the July meeting to discuss.

New Business:

New Council Member – The Nominating Committee has chosen a new council member. The member has accepted and will be put on the ballot at the annual meeting.

Columbarium By-laws - Dave Rogness went over the Columbarium By-laws and asked the Council to approve three motions:

- Authorize the creation of a “Columbarium Committee” to be included in the FLC Governance Policy Manual. Sindy Keller motioned to accept the creation of a Columbarium Committee. Kathy Helming Seconded. Motion approved.
- Approve a restricted account identified as the Columbarium Fund within the FLC accounting system to receive twenty percent (20%) of columbarium related funds for maintenance, repair, and expansion of the columbarium. Chris Kraemer motioned to accept the creation of a restricted account “columbarium Fund”. Jane Nelson seconded. Motion approved.
- Adopt the By-Laws of the FLC Columbarium. Council asked that the section of the By-laws entitled “Cancellation/Transfers of Contract” be adjusted to reflect a better explanation of refunds, no transfers, and no resales. Council also asked that the fee schedule not be included in the By-laws so that pricing will be easier to change when needed. Sindy Keller motioned to accept the By-laws. Loren Stahl seconded. Motion approved.

“Partners” to Present at Council Meetings – The Council agreed to have First Lutheran’s various partners in to present at Council meetings on what they do in the community.

Seminary Scholarships – Currently we provide \$1500/semester to 4 seminary students. 3 of the students go to Luther Seminary who has just eliminated their tuition. Pastor Corey will investigate if there are outside costs associated with seminary and what those are. Council will then determine if the \$1500/semester should be reduced.

Global Leadership Summit – We are sending several staff members to the Global Leadership Summit and are inviting Council members to attend as well. We have partnered with Bethel church to get a reduced rate of \$109/person. The Summit is August 9th and 10th. Missy will send out an email with details to Council members.

Next council Meeting will be held WEDNESDAY, July 11, 2018 at 5:30.

Pastor Dave prayed us out.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Missy Froeber
Executive Assistant

There was an Executive session.