

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church
Council Meeting

Date/Time: 13 January 2016/Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Location: Lounge at St. Stephen's Church

Attendees (Absent): Dave Bergeson, Jessica Donahue, Beth Hostager, Vicki Jackson, Patrice Katzenmaier, Dane McKenzie, Darcy McKenzie, Diane Meyers, Steve Morganson, Cassie Nault, Kathy Packer, Tanisha Pikula, Sitraka Rakotoarivelo, Lori Ritt, Doug Schmitt, Brett Scribner, John Snider, Laura Vitelli, Amy Wilson

Agenda

1. Opening Prayer/ Devotions
2. Adopt minutes from November Council meeting 2015
3. Q & A committee reports:
 - a. Steve M. / Evangelism committee to change name/ Resolution/ vote needed
4. New Business:
 - a. Budget proposal 2016
 - b. Review agenda for congregational meeting (copies made)
 - i. Reminder that we will need to approve two sets of minutes (2014)(2015)
 - c. Council meeting dates Feb – June 2016
5. Old Business:
6. Adjournment – Lord's Prayer

Discussion of Agenda Items:

1. Opening Prayer/ Devotions
2. Adopt minutes from November Council meeting 2015
3. Q & A committee reports:
 - a. Steve M. / Evangelism committee to change name/ Resolution/ vote needed
 - i. Steve explained why he wanted to change name of committee from Evangelism to Inviting
 - ii. Motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to change name
4. New Business:
 - a. Budget proposal 2016
 - i. Jessica read to the council members Pastor John 's letter requesting additional giving that was sent out to the congregation on Tuesday
 - ii. Proposed budget was provided to the council for review (provided as attachment to these minutes)

1. Beth walked the council through the results from 2015
 - a. Income and expenses were both below plan
 - b. Ended year with larger deficit than planned
 - c. Adjusted accounts for operating and dedicated accounts to provide better visibility to operating activity
2. Beth walked through the 2016 budget
 - a. Improved position from 2015 through increased giving and decreased expenses
 - i. This assumes increased giving as a result of letter request for additional giving
 - ii. Expense decrease mainly due to Pastor Cassie's decision to support the congregation on a part time basis
 - iii. Wednesday night meal deficit will be offset by surplus in Missions and Youth
3. Motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to adopt the 2016 preliminary budget, with the understanding that minor adjustments (less than \$2,000) may be made prior to the 24 January Congregational meeting.
 - a. Copies will be made available to the congregation in advance of the 24 Jan meeting
 - b. If we do not achieve the increased giving we will need to adjust the budget and re-address with the congregation
 - c. Brainstorm ways to increase funding
 - i. Gym use by other organizations
- b. Reviewed draft agenda for congregational meeting (provided as attachment to these minutes)
 - i. Kathy Packer will take the minutes
 - ii. Reminder that we will need to approve two sets of minutes (2014)(2015)
 1. Need to approve the May 2014 minutes as the reading and approval was deferred at the May 2015 meeting
 2. Need to approve the May 2015 minutes
 - iii. Slide show of the various ministries will be shown at the meeting
 - iv. Removed old business and Pastors' comments from the agenda
- c. Council meeting dates Feb – June 2016

- i. Agreed to the following dates: Feb. 17th, Mar.16th, Apr. 20th, May 18th, June 15th, July off
 - ii. Start time of meetings will be 6:30 for May and June meetings and 7:15 for all other meeting dates
5. Old Business:
 - a. Amy brought up the point that we need to perform maintenance as it is needed and not defer it as it ultimately makes it more difficult and expensive to complete if it is delayed.
6. Adjournment – Lord's Prayer
 - a. Meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm

Committee Reports that were received this month and that are included with these meeting minutes

- a. Missions Committee Report

Documents reviewed or referenced during the meeting and attached to or submitted concurrently with these minutes:

- Preliminary 2016 Budget (3 files)
- Draft Agenda for 24 January 2016 Congregational Meeting

Recorded and Submitted by
Doug Schmitt,
Council Secretary

Committee Reports

Missions Committee Meeting January 2016

Thursday January 7th 6:00 to 7:00pm

1. Review annual report, awaiting final budget numbers to include in the report.
2. Discussed plans going forward for the next 6 months:
3. March Foodshare - we will be sponsoring this program again this year, especially the Pack the Pews promotion toward the end of the month.
4. May Mission Sunday - Guatemala focus
5. We have planned the dates for our Pots and Pans offerings in 2016 - Feb 14 - May 1 - Aug 14 - Oct 16 - Dec 18 (on kids program)
6. Land Sale Tithe - we hope to execute a plan in 2016.
7. Ken Nelson - will complete the tithe by covering the deficit for provide Wednesday community meals in 2015.
8. Missions Chair - we want to honor Ann Anderson for the time she gave to our committee in the past year. In the interim, we decided to assign co-chairs Vicky and Patty for the first half of 2016, see what the year brings. Vicky will attend Church Council meetings, and keep up communications with the Update and Looking Ahead articles. Patty will continue to compile and send out meeting minutes. We will work together to monitor the financial side of our committee.

Respectfully Submitted
Patty Longard