

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church
Council Meeting

Date/Time: 17 February 2016/Meeting called to order at 7:15 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 January Council meeting 2016
3. Q & A committee reports:
 - a. Darcy McKenzie – Synod Toolkit
 - b. Update from Finance on second pledge card
 - c. Property and Maintenance update on water pipes/plumbing/HVAC
4. New Business:
5. Old Business:
 - a. Council meeting dates Feb – June 2016
 - b. Feb. 17th, Mar.16th, Apr. 20th, May 18th, June 15th, July off
6. Adjournment – Lord's Prayer

Discussion of Agenda Items

1. Opening Prayer/ Devotion
 - a. Kathy Packer led the Council in opening prayer
2. Adopt minutes from January Council meeting 2016
 - a. Motion to approve minutes was made Tanisha, seconded by Steve and approved unanimously
3. Q & A committee reports:
 - a. Darcy McKenzie – Synod Toolkit
 - i. Very well done and educational
 - ii. Discussed how to take care of your church building to be better stewards
 - iii. Provided some very good information regarding energy audits
 - b. Update from Finance on second pledge card
 - i. 86 positive responses to 2nd pledge request
 - ii. Slightly less than an additional \$12,000 was pledged, with a portion of it paid at one time in January.
 - iii. Stewardship will follow-up to try and obtain additional responses
 - iv. Property and Maintenance update on water pipes/plumbing/HVAC – No discussion
 - c. Finance
 - i. Diane indicated that January giving was \$400 below budget of \$32,110
 - ii. Finance Committee still needs update from Missions Committee on giving budget details – Vicki took action to provide

- d. Fellowship
 - i. Mardi Gras was great success thanks to hosts and guests; broke even on costs
 - e. Youth
 - i. Running out of food on Wednesday nights;
 - ii. Darcy working with Sitraka on improving planning.
 - iii. Also, Darcy working on tracking Sitraka's expenses and budget.
 - f. Education
 - i. Tanisha indicated that we need to hire another nursery person
 - 1. Molly gave her notice.
 - 2. Notice of need will be put in the Update.
4. New Business:
- a. Sunday Services
 - i. Jessica talked about the one Sunday service.
 - ii. Impact on volunteers and help with services discussed.
 - iii. Patrice said the sign-up sheet has been working well.
 - b. Sunday Fellowship
 - i. Patrice brought up the donuts issues, suggested \$2 for coffee and donuts.
 - ii. May need to go to cookies or something else cheaper.
 - iii. Coffee is expensive
 - 1. Fair trade is pricey. Not sure of coffee costs.
 - 2. Do we have an ethical obligation?
 - iv. Need to understand costs,
 - 1. Committee took action to run the numbers and to explore an updated selection of food.
 - 2. Information will be presented to the Exec Committee at March meeting.
 - c. Conference Assembly/Synod Assembly
 - i. Vicki will attend the conference assembly next week
 - ii. Brett will get the list of others attending from the Congregational Meeting Minutes
 - d. Council meeting dates Feb – June 2016
 - e. Feb. 17th, Mar.16th, Apr. 20th, May 18th, June 15th, July off
5. Adjournment – Lord's Prayer

Attachments to these Minutes:

Committee Reports

Mission Committee

Finance Committee

Education Committee

Committee Reports

Mission Committee Meeting (Vicki Jackson)

February 4, 2016, 6 to 7pm

Members present: Lynda Bergeson and Vicki Jackson

1. We had scheduled a Pots and Pans offering for February 14. These offering support our on-going Loaves and Fishes ministry. Vicki will get announcements in weekly e-updates.
2. We are again participating in the Minnesota Food Share drive in March. Vicki will write announcements for March Update and weekly e-updates. We will need to schedule a time to arrange drop-off site for food donations in the narthex and put up posters. We plan to do a Pack the Pews Sunday again this year. It is scheduled for March 20 which is Palm Sunday. Pastor John agreed that we can plan this event on that Sunday.

Respectfully submitted,
Vicki Jackson

Finance (Diane Meyers)

FINANCE

The Finance committee met on Thursday, February 4th. Members present included Dave Bergeson, Brett Scribner, Sue Clark, Debbie Pirkl, Abra Gilman, Beth Hostager and Diane Meyers.

Mike Bonk has resigned from the Finance committee.

Financials :

January financials were not available at the time of the meeting.

Discussion

We finalized the new accounts for 2016.

Discussed how we should create the budget for 2016.

NOTE:

A reminder was given by Abra that all check requests need to be to Jan by 4:30 on Mondays.

Respectfully submitted.

Beth Hostager and Diane Meyers, Finance co -chairs

Education (Tanisha Pikula)

Sitraka and I met on Feb 7th and talked about anyone wanting to make a purchase for Education will need to fill out a request form and get my approval prior to the purchase so we can keep better track of our Education budget this year.

Sitraka and I will be meeting again on Friday 2/19 at 5:30pm to go over our Vacation bible study materials and discuss the costs of that as well.

WILD/JOY have been meeting and practicing for the lent service they will be leading on 3/9 and 3/16.

Thank you,
Tanisha Pikula
SSLC Education Chair