

COUNCIL MEETING

March 8, 2018

CALL TO ORDER: Lynn at 5:34

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Teresa, Jane, Lynn, Dave, Jason, Deb, Linda, Pastor Mary, Stacy. Nevada, Ryan, and Beth had given notification they would not be at the meeting.

NON-MEMBER: Nita Davis.

DEVOTION: Deb

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Deb/Jane MSC

TREASURER 'S REPORT:

Nita Davis was present to answer questions.

Lynn had a question regarding the amount on the check register that was paid to Sue Coady. It did not seem consistent with previous months. Nita stated that this is due to the voluntary withholdings that Sue has. Teresa questioned what the check to Harris communication was for. It was found that this is the company that we order the batteries from for the personal amplifiers that are used during service.

The voids that are listed were because the checks had been made out in the wrong amount and then corrected.

Nita said that she can have the report ready by the second Thursday of the month at this time and probably by the second Tuesday of the month if the meeting changes to that date when Frank is back from Arizona.

Nita is willing to answer questions by phone either before the meeting or during the meeting.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report Deb/ Stacy MSC

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Motion to approve Deb/Dave MSC.

Correspondence – Linda had received a thank you from the Wrenshall School for the donation toward their school paper. There was also a form for donation for the 2018-19 school year. This will be paid at the end of the summer.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

An email had been sent to each council member with the written report.

Services included the one on Facebook when church was canceled due to the snow storm.

Pastor has again had comments about getting more people involved. Hopefully sending the sign-up sheets around during coffee will be of some help with this issue.

Bishop's visit – went well and included hosting for youth and their parents from Elim Church and Salem Church.

Plans are in place to have seven youth receive 1st Communion on Palm Sunday.

Pastor presented information about a workshop that will be held for training in church leadership.

PROPERTY: Dave reported that he has done a temporary repair on the gutter by the entrance steps and has decreased the amount of water that is leaking from that area.

Deb stated that her husband Rod is willing to help with projects.

WORSHIP: Lynn went over Holy week services including 8 o'clock and 10:30 on Easter Sunday.

It was mentioned at the Worship Committee meeting that it might be helpful to have a parent's class. This would give parents information that would help them answer questions their children might have from Faith Formation Classes.

CYFED: Linda reported that the students in the 1st Communion class will be working on making the bread for that service and plans are underway for the Agape Meal.

OLD BUSINESS-

TREASURER 'S POSITION-Lynn reported on the meeting the executive committee had with Pastor Rollie Bockbrader. He is the Synod Secretary and specializes in congregation constitution review. Linda had emailed him to learn what the correct procedure is to have the recently passed amendment regarding the Treasurer added to our Constitution. At the meeting he stated that there are two other areas in the constitution that define the Treasurer. One of them states that the Treasurer has to be a Bethesda church member. Pastor Rollie recommended that Nita, the person we hired, have the title of bookkeeper/accountant. She will have all the duties that Sue Coady had but not the ability to sign checks.

Frank questioned if Nita is bonded as she will have the ability to move funds around even if she doesn't sign checks. Lynn

emailed Nita and she responded that she is bonded and has a current background check.

She is an independent CPA and also does books for the Vineyard church.

Regarding the Treasurer, Pastor Rollie suggested that it be a council member who would be a liaison between the congregation/council and the bookkeeper/accountant. This person would oversee the paper work being done by the bookkeeper/accountant.

Lynn nominated Stacy who accepted. The motion was made for Stacy to be Treasurer Lynn/Teresa MSC.

Bookkeeper/accountant- Lynn spoke to Nita before the meeting regarding her hours and pay rate. Nita has estimated that she will be working 12-15 hours per month and possibly an additional five hours at the end of the year. At the rate of \$20 per hour for 12 hours per month this would amount to \$2980

Motion was made to hire Nita Lynn/Stacy MSC.

Payment will be coming from the line item on the budget of Treasurer which is \$2100.

The council will have to keep this in mind regarding the checking account balance near the end of the year.

The council feels that Nita is very qualified and that the church is fortunate to have her.

Sue Coady will be paid through the end of April as she is still training Nita.

FINANCIAL/SECRETARY-

Sue Coady told Linda that she has no one at this time that is interested in taking this position. There was a discussion on the definition of this job. Sue feels that it would require about two hours per month. Teresa stated that she is willing to meet with Sue and go through training for this position. Lynn will notify Sue to contact Teresa.

W&R- it was too late to stop the transfer of the interest in January. Sue has notified them and no further transfers should be made.

TELEPHONE- Deb called Sue Coady and found out Sue had checked at the end of December and that Century Link was the best deal. The \$150 per month includes two lines and Internet. One line is the rollover line and one has unlimited minutes. It is the cheapest because it is under residential not business. They had also installed booster boxes for better Internet coverage throughout of the building. The council decided to stay with Century Link. Deb will work on getting authorized persons updated.

BUILDING USE- Teresa questioned the price of the 15 keys if lock box would work better. Jason stated that the keys were included in the price of changing the locks. The question at this time is how to raise the money for the installation? It was suggested to take donations at coffee hour on a Sunday that is not designated for another activity by Social Ministry. Stacy said the group she is in is serving coffee this coming Sunday. She will make a sign to put on the table. Pastor Mary will announce during service the purpose of the donation.

WEBSITE- Linda stated that Bobbie now has the password for the website and has started to post approved council meeting minutes. She will post committee minutes once she has finished the council minutes.

AUTHORIZATION to sign checks and other paperwork - currently Lynn and Pastor Mary Fiel. Will add Stacy.

RETREAT- May 6 will not work. Put on next month's agenda under Old Business.

INSTALLATION of council members –

May 13, Mother's Day.

NEW BUSINESS:

CALLING LIST to cancel church -

The Beacon suggests that when there is bad weather members should check the radio,TV, or Facebook. Stacy will make a sign-up sheet for those who want to be called.

LOOSE CHANGE- At Wednesday services during Advent and Lent the loose change has traditionally been given to the Food Shelf. During Lent this year it will be used to buy additional items of clothing to give to the Damiano Center in Duluth.

The money given at Wednesday supper goes towards the future meals.

The loose change given during Wednesday Faith Formation service goes to the general fund.

COPIER/PRINTER- we will soon need to buy or rent a different printer as the current one is having issues and is so old they can no longer get parts for it. Jason knows someone who deals with this type of equipment. Pastor Mary will have Bobbie email information as to what we require to Jason.

FREE WILL OFFERING from Easter breakfast- The Kiehls who organize and work on the breakfast, have requested that

the offering go toward the kitchen remodel project. The council agreed that this would be a good use of the money.
SYNOD ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVES- Pastor Rollie stated that the council should approve this at a council meeting since there were no candidates available at the time of the Annual Meeting. At this time Teresa and Jim Solomon are possible candidates. The council is in favor of them being our representatives if it works for their schedule.

THANK YOU- none at this time.

NEXT MEETING- April 12. Frank stated that he may not be available by phone as he may be driving back to Minnesota. Any earlier in the month might not work for Nita to have the budget report ready.

DEVOTION/TREATS- Ryan

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Deb/Dave MSC at 7:00(?)

Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted by,

Linda Newlon

Council Secretary