

Council Meeting

October 9, 2018

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Lynn called the meeting to order at 5:34.

PRESENT: Ryan, Stacy, Jane, Lynn, Deb, Beth, Frank, Dave, Linda.

Council members not present – Jason, Nevada, Teresa, and also Pastor Mary.

Congregation member present – Wendy Mitchell.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Linda requested that Wendy be able to speak for the CYFed committee regarding the Stewardship class.

Motion by Frank/Beth to accept agenda with addition of Wendy as noted above. MSC.

DEVOTION: Jane

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PROPERTY- Dave reported that three CO2 / smoke combination alarms have been purchased and installed. Two on the main level and one in the basement. He will be posting specific instructions about the alarms.

A door bell has been installed on the 5th St entrance.

The protective shelter for the electric and gas meters on the east side of the church will soon be constructed and installed.

CYFed- Linda gave a review of the 6th through 9th grade Faith Formation and 3rd grade Bible classes.

Wendy explained the background on the concept of using money as a part the new Stewardship Class which will start in December for the fifth graders. It is based on Jesus' story of the Talents. At this time CYFed is about \$1400 under budget and they would like to use \$450 for the Stewardship Class.

Motion was made to approve spending \$450 by CYFed for the Stewardship Class by Ryan/Frank MSC.

Linda reported that the CYFed committee has their budget ready to be used by the Executive Committee in planning the Church budget for 2019.

WORSHIP TEAM- Lynn, no meeting since the last Council Meeting.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Thank you cards have been sent to Terry and Sue Coady and Larry Beckstrom.

APPROVAL: Motion to approve Secretary's Report Stacy/Jane MSC.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Investments are now shown as being combined.

In/Out- this was the amount that was left over from donations for the Homeless/blessing bags. It was put under Youth Group as income.

YTD Budget- any difference between expenses and income is coming out of the checking account.

April was the only month that brought in more than we spent due to the Meatball Supper and Thrivent Choice Dollars.

Intent to Synod- this is a percent of the income (giving) and shown on page 4 of the statement. It doesn't include money from the Meatball Supper.

Active membership – used to decide the amount that we pay towards VLM. Frank asked what the recommended guidelines are from the Synod regarding membership and also what guidelines they give towards benefits for the pastor. There is information in the office from the Synod regarding how they define membership. Portico is the online system that is used to help figure out benefits for the pastor.

Lynn stated that in the past we have tried to pay at least the minimum that is recommended.

APPROVAL: Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report by Frank/Deb MSC.

PASTOR'S REPORT: none at this time.

OLD BUSINESS:

Payment to Memorial/Endowment–

The church is supposed to pay \$2000 a year toward our loan and we still owe \$1035 at this time for 2018. Motion was made to pay the \$1035 to Memorial/ Endorsement by Lynn/Stacy MSC.

Copier information – Frank stated that after looking at all the information and going over figures and discussing issues with Bobbie that there is no problem at this time with the copier. The service contract that has been offered doesn't really benefit us in anyway. Frank suggested that we table buying a new copier at this time. Now doing 1000 copies per month and the life that is left on our current copier should last for quite a while, especially since we have decreased the number of newsletters that are copied to be mailed out.

Transfer of accounts to MCCU -

Century Link is left to be changed so by next month all the accounts should be transferred to MCCU

New checks for MMCU -

Lynn order checks and got them in four days. Due to the hassle that we went through MCCU credited us for all the checks that we received. Once everything is straightened out with MCCU we will probably see a decrease in the number of hours that Nita needs to put in each month.

Reimbursement for repair of coffee maker – Lynn

Upper Lakes Food refused to give us any reimbursement for repairs.

Bunn is going to give us a reimbursement for the repairs and they will give us a one year warranty on labor and two-year warranty on from when it was installed in May 23,2018.

Our salesman from Upper Lakes Food is going to give us some dishwasher liquid as he felt that his company should have dealt more fairly with us.

Extra chairs – last year the Council approved that we sell at least some of our extra chairs. We have about 150 of the plastic/metal chairs and some of the wooden chairs with fabric seats. Suggest selling the metal/plastic ones for five dollars each and the wooden ones for \$15 each. Stacy will put a notice on Facebook to inform our members about the chairs. If necessary she could also put them on Craig's List.

NEW BUSINESS:

Pastor's Benefit Package-

Stacy presented printed information from Portico showing different possibilities for pastor's benefit package.

Pastor Mary had been guided by the Synod in her request for benefits. She is asking for a Family health care insurance plan to be paid by the church.

Frank stated that businesses now are not paying all of an employee's health insurance. Current working world doesn't pay as much as we are already paying.

There was a consensus that we need to be realistic about what we as a congregation can afford. We need to look at the entire package, the salary and all benefits. We will need to decide what salary we will be able to pay her next year in order to get the correct amount of insurance from Portico.

The first year we gave her \$500 extra due to her Master's degree. We discussed that \$500 would not be added every year. In order to decide on her salary for 2019 it was suggested that we increase her current salary by 2%, which is more than the cost of living increase.

It is felt that we need to help work on increasing attendance and then giving would probably go up.

Motion was made to offer the amount of the Individual Gold Plus Plan by Stacy/Frank MSC.

Pastor Mary will be able to use that as she needs to for her family coverage.

Salary will be determined when the Executive Committee works on the 2019 budget. That meeting will be scheduled quite soon.

Thank you cards - none at this time.

DEVOTION/ TREATS : Nevada

NEXT MEETING: November 13 at 5:30

EXECUTIVE MEETING: November 6 via email.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made at 7:17 to adjourn Deb/Dave MSC.

LORD'S PRAY